World Vedic Heritage
A History of Histories
I
P.N. OAK

WORLD VEDIC HERITAGE

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Dedication

All mundane activity is a co-operative effort; so is this work which is hereby dedicated to my family members , relations , friends and the printers who helped in various ways in the completion of this project.

The object in writing this work is to acquaint and awaken the world public to its primordial Vedic Heritage of the times when human beings were not divided and packed into mutually hating, hissing and hitting national and religious compartments .

Vedic culture regards the whole globe as a commom home and all beings (including animal and plant life) as one family.

Hinduism is a modern residual, territorial synonym of primeval, ancient worldwide Vedic culture implying people residing in the Sindhu (pronounced Hindu) region, whose goal is to lead a virtuous life of re-nunciation and social service sans drugs, hot drinks and womanizing without being pinned down to any prophet or the prophet's book.

Readers believing in such an ideal may help set up World Vedic Heri-tage Academies throughout the world. This work is also dedicated to that goal of freeing humanity from all forms of terror, torture, tyranny, treachery, trickery, taxation and temptation of so called religions and weld all people into a common harmonious, homogeneous, peaceful, cheerful, helpful fraternity .

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We are grateful to the Author for granting us permission to publish this edition. Two articles have been added to this edition which have been attached at the end as Appendix I & II.

Publishers

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WORLD VEDIC HERITAGE UNIVERSITY - APPEAL

Around the world there are numerous organizations such as the ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness), the Brahma Kumaries, the Saiva Siddhanta Church (Hawaii), the Rashtreeya Swayamsevak Sangh, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, the Hindu Mahasabhas of India and South Africa and the Arya Samaj for whom Vedic culture is an article of faith.

They and others who admire Vedic culture should be happy to find herein overwhelming, comprehensive evidence to indicate that from the beginning of time upto the rise of Christianity a united world spoke Sanskrit and followed the Vedic way of life.

Consequently, a World Vedic Heritage University with branches in all countries needs to be founded to disseminate this old knowledge to the new world. The author, therefore, invites correspondence from individuals and institutions willing to help with resources in cash, kind and labour in that colossal, noble, global, educational undertaking, for world unity, understanding and peace.

♦♦

INTRODUCTION TO THIS SECOND EDITION

Almost every reader who read the first edition of **World Vedic Heritage** expressed his admiration in some form such as by recommending it to others, or by gifting it or by writing an appreciatory letter to me. Because this book fills an unsuspected void in human knowledge. Ask any Christian Westerner about the culture and history of his pre-Christian forefathers and he will look perplexed. He knows nothing about it. In fact he never imagined that he or she should have had some family history in the pre-Christian milleniums too. That is to say his concept of history is limited to only about a 1000 to 1600 years.

The same is the case with Muslims. For them prophet Mohamed is the last post. Beyond him there is no history. That means a Muslim's span of history terminates at 622 A. D. while a Christian's terminus of history is Jesus.

And since during the last thousand years or so European Christians and Muslims dominated the world through military conquests current histories all over the world have nothing coherent to say beyond a Mohamed or Jesus.

This is a very deplorable state of affairs since humanity has been on this earth for millions of years.

That is why this book fills that void in making all humanity, especially those who segregate and barricade themselves as Muslims or Christians, aware of their link with pre-Mohamed and pre-Jesus

times. (Actually no Jesus ever lived, but we are using that name as a figurehead symbolizing Christianity.)

Besides suppressing or destroying all earlier history Christian and Muslim zealots must be held guilty of two more academic crimes. One is that they have totally suppressed the accounts of the atrocious means they adopted in spreading their cults. Secondly, they have distorted subsequent history. For instance, they captured Vedic temples for misuse as churches and mosques though actually they claim to have built them. They compelled large masses through organized coercion to convert and yet they pretend to have won followers through sheer admiration for their teachings whatever they were.

Modern-day Muslim and Christian leaders would do well to realize and recognize that the ancestry of all humans extends to millions of years before a Mohamed or Jesus. Stamping out all that history in the name of a Mohamed or Jesus is an academic tyranny and crime. European Christians are supposed to be more enlightened and educated than Muslims. Yet in the matter of history they too pretend to have no pre-Christian history. There is great scope and need, therefore, to reinvestigate and record that suppressed history.

To correct all such aberrations that bedevil human history because of deliberate design, negligence or ignorance and present a cogent, continuous, flawless account so that humanity may be made aware of its common Vedic origin is the main aim of this volume.

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INDIGNATION AND INDICTMENT

Writing out this volume has been a mixed experience of both great happiness and intense pain.

The realization of the doctrine expounded in this volume, that all humanity was heir to Vedic culture and Sanskrit language from the beginning of time was a matter of great delight.

The corollary of it that human history has had a planned systematic, enlightened, unitary beginning and has not had a mushroom, disunited, haphazard, freak birth in dark, animal - infested caves was also a highly gratifying thought.

But the excruciatingly agonizing counterpart was the discovery that doctors of academics and proctors of journalism have through their incompetence, inadvertance, intransigence, fear-psychosis, vested interests in religious or professional loyalties or at times even out of deliberate design and sheer cussedness consistently refused, ignored, suppressed, misconstrued or distorted the plethora of evidence that has been coming their way about the worldwide prevalence of Vedic culture and Sanskrit language in pre-Christian times.

The Bible itself describing the pre-Christian world admits (in Genesis 11:1) that "the whole earth was of one language and one speech."

That language was Sanskrit and the common culture of all was Vedic.

Besides, European-Christian scholars of the standing of Sir William Jones, Maxmueller and H.H.Wilson have had immense evidence of diverse kinds, such as archaeological, philological and historical. For instance, they all knew that icons of the elephant - God, Lord Ganesh used to adorn the top of entrances to homes and walled townships in ancient Greece and Italy as in India. If then, India follows Vedic culture, of which Ganesh is an important symbol, does it not follow that ancient Greece and Italy too were Vedic countries? And yet every time, whenever they came across similar evidence of other kinds they kept on rejecting it singly as mere accidental, stray coincidence.

Faulty Methodology

Thus, if one is investigating a murder, enmity between the deceased and the suspect could be brushed away with the cynical remark that several people hate each other and yet one does not necessarily murder the other. If a blood-stained murder weapon is found in the suspect's possession, one can argue it away by pointing out that similar blood-stained knives could be found with every butcher. When it is argued that the suspect was found emerging from the scene of murder at the time of the crime, one could still argue that several other people had occasion to come out of the same place at that time; could they all be accused of murder?

It may be noticed from the above instance that every single point could thus be argued away without any murder suspect being ever cornered or convicted That is what scholars the world over have been doing in the matter of world history. Point by point they have been dismissing mountainous evidence as of no consequence and have been themselves guilty of "murdering" history. This will indicate that their methodology of research has been extremely faulty. It is like a warrior standing at the exit of a narrow defile and one by one, cutting down any number of his rivals. That is not the way to do any investigation. It is the totality of evidence that has got to be considered. In such a method every single point, no matter how small or subtle, carries one a step further in reaching a conclusion. This principle of historical research has been completely,

universally ignored hitherto. Consequently a special section of this volume is devoted entirely to the pit-falls of research methodology.

Deterrents to Honest Research

Another factor vitiating modern historical research is religious, regional, national, political, emotional or personal loyalties. For instance, jesus Christ is a malpronunciation of the word iesus Chrisn. That should be obvious to any honest researcher on the very face of it. And yet in these days of Western, Christian dominance of world affairs, which Christian will have the guts to admit that Christ is a non-person? Which Muslim will be prepared to admit anything which detracts from the importance of the Koran or Mohamad? Such psychological chains have prevented honest research. Consequently the world is indulging in make-believe research, where all motions of research, are meticulously simulated only to arrive at some phoney, chauvinistic conclusions.

The Taj Mahal

A graphic instance is my discovery announced over 29 years ago through my research publication that the Taj Mahal in Agra is an ancient Hindu temple-palace and not a 17th century Islamic tomb. This conclusion, if admitted, would compel all historians, archaeologists, art and architectural experts, museums, guvernments, universities, tourist officials and people of the news media to change their outlook. Consequently, so far they have all banded together in a conspiracy of silence to look the other way and continue to adamantly project the Taj Mahal as a tomb, pretending not to have heard or known anything to the contrary. But how long can the TRUTH be resisted? One day all those trying to stem it will be swept off their feet.

So-called Mosques and Mausoleums

Likewise the so-called Jama Masjids and historic mausoleums in Delhi, Agra and countless other cities throughout the world are all captured mansions and temples. I have challenged a number of historians, universities, so called experts in Islamic art and

architecture around the world, the mujawars of tombs and Imams of mosques, journalists of leading dailies and radio-TV staff in London, New York and New Delhi who keep on describing the glories of so-called Islamic architecture, to a public debate but none of them has either the guts to disprove the finding or the grace to accept it. They are scared to the very marrow of their bones even to conceive of those mosques and mausoleums as captured mansions and temples even within the privacy of their own hearts. Can one expect such people to educate others when they can't enlighten themselves?

I have had correspondence with Oxford's and Webster's dictionaries informing them that English (and every other language) is a dialect of Sanskrit and, therefore, the entire etymological concept of all lexicographers ought to be Sanskrit-oriented. But perhaps it is too early to expect them to condescend to accept a change.

Thus in almost every field of human learning modern concepts, moulded mainly by Christian and Muslim tutoring, for the last 1400 years, represent a conglomerate of the wishful thinking of several pressure groups, and not the TRUTH as it was and as it should be.

♦♦

NOVEL FACTS AND FORMAT

The mention of a new book on history does not generally evoke much attention or excite any special interest because it is presumed to be a mere rehash of past events within the outline of a (more or less) fixed chronology with a little detail, some quibble, jugglery of argument or new interpretation added here and there.

But this volume is a world apart. It has novel facts and a new format to present in an absolutely new framework of world history.

In one sense history can never be new because it has to depend on old events and those cannot be conjured up. But many-a-time it so happens that remote developments are often rejected as unbelievable and the vacuum is sought to be filled up with speculative accounts to fit in with spurious after-thoughts and convenient dogmas.

This is the nature of the current ailment of world history. It is in a state of delirium tremens because of slow poisoning, having been injected with Christian, Muslim and Communist concoctions. It was too much for these toddling faiths to think of a human civilization stretching back to billions of years. So they arbitrarily assumed 4004 B.C. as a 'fairly remote' starting point. Each one of them then hoisted a Jesus, Mohamad or Karl Marx as their respective outpost. Then they decided that any history before them could be bundled up as heathen, Kafir or capitalist

and safely ignored. Any history after them was acceptable only so far as it centred round those three persons or around the aura of the ideas associated with them.

That among those three Jesus is a fictitious person, doesn't bother anyone. Since Europeans have an upper hand in the modern world they consider Jesus to be too holy for any historical probe. Thus history has been subjected to a lot of manhandling and manipulation to arrive at some wishful thinking.

Contrarily genuine ancient histories such as the Sanskrit Puranas have been completely ignored because they don't count and fit into Christian or Muslim concepts.

Protracted Alien Rule has Demoralized Hindudom

As for the Hindu intelligentsia it having been tutored in Western ideas and also because it has become demoralized by authoritative Christian and Islamic denunciation of every thing Hindu, Hindudom suffers from a self-deprecatory inferiority complex. As such Hindu bureaucracy and leadership allow themselves to be misled and waylaid by Western notions. Consequently Hindudom itself is, by and large, neglecting its own Vedic, Sanskrit heritage in not asserting the importance of the Puranas and not taking any serious notice of their masterly ancient texts of, say, Ayurved and architecture. Whatever other effects protracted slavery may have it makes a subject-nation lose confidence in its own ability, makes it hate its own heritage and run after the values set by alien rulers. This is what ails the Hindus. This malady is also reflected in Hindu journals and books. The Hindu press imitates the West in giving prominence to even trivial happenings in the West and to utterances of Westerners. Even with regard to happenings in India or the rest of Asia Hindu journalists will highlight topics which excite Western interest even of a malicious kind, or put them across in the Western style. In books and newspaper articles anything quoted from a Muslim or Christian source is considered impartial and authoritative while a Hindu reference will be considered to be dubious.

This is a very dismal situation. It is hoped that readers of this volume would be able to shake off those psychological shackles and take a new look at history with the help of the evidence and arguments presented in this volume.

In studying or reviewing Vedic culture it would be just and proper to study all concepts associated with it as a whole like a living organism and not tear them apart limb by limb. Thus for instance, when Vedic tradition lays down that the Vedas were bestowed on humanity at the start of the Kruta Yug 1,97,29,49,084 years ago, it doesn't behove us to say that "Well! since Maxmueller wants to assume the Vedas to be no more ancient than 1200 B.C. let us take that as more authoritative as against what our sages, savants, unbroken tradition and almanacs say."

Further, when Vedic tradition says that the Vedas and their language Sanskrit were bestowed by divinity at the start of the universe we look up to European Christian Victorian scholars for approval. And since they shake their heads and declare that 'it is impossible' we too echo it and say "Yes! certainly it is impossible". This is a very hateful way of studying pre-Christian history. It amounts to vesting the veto in the antagonist.

It is forgotten that Jewish, Christian and Muslim traditions all unanimously echo the Vedic version of creation in the book of Genesis. This is pointed out in relevant chapters ahead. After all, the story of the creation has been recorded and handed down by generations of selfless souls - sages and spiritualists - and not by mercenary chauvinists and politicians.

In addition to the above weighty consideration it will be pointed out in the following pages that Vedic tradition is also able to explain and correlate all history. Eliminate or ignore Vedic tradition and all history becomes an inexplicable mass of floating, rootless and tangled ideas. For instance, Jewish, Christian and Muslim traditions and terminology can be explained only in the context of earlier Vedic history because they are all chips of the Vedic block. Some other similar instances are cited in a chapter titled 'How Much

History Does The World Know.'

The Puranas form the historical wing of that Vedic tradition. Therefore, they cannot be ignored. When Vedic tradition claims a multimillion - year antiquity, the Puranas come forward to explain the developments during that long span.

We thus have an unbroken continuity of the history of humanity from the start of the creation to the Mahabharat war. As a result of that war the world Vedic set-up was shattered and its fragments came to be known as Syria, Assyria etc. It is at that point that modern texts pick up the thread of history. Beyond that point modern histories draw a blank and assert that at some earlier stage man evolved from a monkey and then lived as a cave man. Whether those conclusions are valid we have discussed in a special chapter.

Reader Receptivity

The first immediate reaction of a large section of the public on reading an unheard of thesis of the kind expounded in this volume is likely to be one of shock, disbelief and rejection. But the cogency of the argument, the continuity of the thread of history and the comprehensive evidence are likely to be persuasive factors which may ultimately make this theme more agreeable and acceptable than the earlier ones which leave many questions unanswered. Galileo and Einstein too were at first denounced and rejected. Likewise my historical deductions too will be accepted in course of time.

Handicap

The thesis handled in this volume is of encyclopaedic proportions. As such it needed colossal resources of men, money, material, reference works and enough time, which I lacked.

Consequently all the details of the publications from which I have quoted were not always readily available in the handy secondary sources used by me. But that, I believe is only a technical flaw. The primary source could, if necessary, always be easily traced with the clues provided. Moreover, even in those cases that little shortcoming is over-compensated by other supporting evidence and

logic. Therefore the reader is requested to ignore that minor flaw and move on to grasp and assimilate the substance of the thesis and allow it to settle down in the inner self for leisurely pondering instead of pronouncing an instant unfavourable verdict.

Since this is an important, unforeseen framework of world history, shaking and shocking established concepts all along the line, it calls for cool reflection and thorough assimilation over a period of time. I, as the author, am in no hurry to receive a favourable reaction and therefore, the reader too may not hasten to pronounce instant judgment.

♦♦

THE UNIFIED FIELD THEORY OF HISTORY

This volume should rank as very unique in the entire range of world historical literature, because, so far as we can see, in modern times no one has presented a consistent, plausible, continuous, single-source account of world history. Each one has begun at some random point, discussed some chosen periods and topics of history and called it a day.

Such treatment is symptomatic of the confusion that abounds in the minds of the intelligentsia regarding history. That confusion is multilateral. This volume is intended to remove that confusing haze from the reader's mind and open before him a new vista of logical, systematic and thorough thinking in history.

Theologians agree that despite diverse manifestations the immanent divinity is one. Likewise physicists agree that the seemingly diverse elements of the physical world emanate from a single source. That indicates that there is a certain common starting point for everything. Naturally history is no exception. History too had a single-source, one point beginning. That is to say the beginning of the cosmos and the start of humanity was not a random, freakish, spontaneous, wild growth of just anything, anytime, anywhere, anyhow. It was a planned and systematic beginning. This is what we call the Unified Field Theory of History. Consequently we believe that in modern times this volume is the first work to propound such a view.

The world began millions of years ago with the Kruta Yuga

(i.e. the 'ready-made' era) with a complete, ready-made setting of human beings, plants and animals, with humanity rooted in Vedic culture and speaking Sanskrit. Thereafter, divinity kept aloof watching and umpiring the affairs of the world, even as people start a stage play or a field game, factory or business firm with fully-trained participants and thereafter keep away watching and umpiring the performance.

All history must start from that metaphysical point. The present concept that man was born somewhere, somehow and that he developed one or more languages anyhow must no longer be regarded as rational.

That single-source unity of humanity continued through three eras namely Kruta, Treta and Dwapar. Towards the end of the Dwapar Yuga came the nuclear and biological devastation of the Mahabharat war.

The shattering effect of that unprecedented annihilation caused three main types of fragmentation. Administratively, the unitary world government was broken into regional states such as Syria, Assyria, Scythia, Babylonia, Egypt, India and China. Contrarily current historical texts assume that man evolved from a monkey he then developed a language and later he organized states like Babylonia and Syria.

Theologically the Vedic pantheon was shared by breakway cults and creeds, with each swearing allegiance to some particular form of divinity.

Linguistically, the teaching of Sanskrit throughout the world, having broken down, local mannerisms and corruptions of the ancient, primordial Sanskrit gave rise to various regional languages of Europe, Asia and Africa. That was how ancient Vedic unity broke up into the present cleavage in every sphere.

Likewise the teaching of all Vedic sciences and arts such as architecture and Ayurveda (the Vedic science of medicine) suffered a severe setback because while their texts remained Sanskrit, the ancient sway of Sanskrit as the universal language having come

to an end, those who could read or teach ancient Sanskrit texts, dwindled progressively.

It was that catastrophe which ushered a dark age over the human world. Humanity became divided into sectors and pockets with some groups remaining cut off in distant regions, sinking to a state of primitive living. It is those which we regard today as the forest tribes or the backward communities such as the Red Indians of America or the aborigines, Maories of Australia and New Zealand. Other pockets of humanity were in a slightly better state of civilization. Yet humanity as a whole totally lost its great scientific and technological advancement of the Mahabharat era and was pushed back almost to square one to make a fresh start.

Eversince though the Western world has caught up once again with some remarkable technological advancement yet that is about all that can be said on the credit side. Even there the Westerners have totally failed to resuscitate and recapture the lofty principles and standards of economical and painless prophylactic proficiency of Ayurved and the immaculate grandeur of Vedic architecture. Even in other fields such as theological unity, social cohesion, political and administrative unity, eradication of poverty and crime, ensuring unimpeded access to all parts of the world, eliminating sectional, sectarian and religious strife, modern society rates very low. The propagation of factional religions like Buddhism, Christianity and Islam have driven wedges in human society and plunged it into social and theological confusion. The Vedic moorings have been lost. Humanity today is in the hapless position of being thrown overboard from a wrecked Vedic ship to fend for itself in a dark, stormy, shark-infested sea of divisive selfish interests with each individual or group trying to outdo, undo or kill the others.

It is this story which this volume unfolds, of how a once united world is being progressively (or regressively!) riven into ever smaller fiercer and more enmical factions.

It is hoped, incidentally, that this Unified Field Theory of World History would help unite humanity once again in Vedic culture,

in the universal teaching and speaking of Sanskrit, abandonment of all religious and political labels and treating the whole globe as one realm where man may once again move freely as in ancient times sans passport and sans visa. This way tuition in history will cease to be a mere academic exercise and will have a certain overwhelming social utility and purpose.

This volume should also serve as an encyclopaedia of lost history. Several truths long remaining hidden and unknown have been salvaged and presented herein for the enlightenment of the world.

This volume also points out that a mere study of historical records is of no use and does not make one a historian if along with that study one does not have a mind keen to know the truth and one is not courageous enough to speak it out from house-tops in the teeth of fierce opposition from various pressure groups.

Though the subject matter of this volume is history, unlike others the reader won't meet here a mere rehash of old events but an absolutely new narration of lost and unknown history, a plausible explanation of garbled and half-understood concepts and a fresh new research methodology.

The evidence presented in this volume should be regarded not as exhaustive but only as indicative of a vast new, virgin field of research.

Thousands of new research volumes containing such information countrywise, regionwise and language-wise will have to be published.

For this great task it would be proper to found a World Vedic Heritage University or Academy to conduct research and tuition in this primordial human heritage.

♦♦

A NEW FRAMEWORK FOR WORLD HISTORY

History is a subject in which there is no dearth of books being constantly published around the world. But all such books amount to nothing more than a little tinkering here and there within the ambit of traditional concepts.

This volume has a radically different role to play inasmuch as it lays down an altogether new framework for the study, comprehension of and research in world history.

Big Bang And Darwin

For the last few centuries, eversince the European system of education has been dominating the academic world, it has been facilely assumed that the world of matter was created with a big bang and life evolved as envisaged by Darwin. Even though some modern-day physicists and biologists may be entertaining serious doubts and reservations about those two theories yet for all practical purposes most scholars of all disciplines continue to think, speak, teach and write as though those two concepts about the creation of matter and life have an unquestionable, immutable, authoritative finality about them.

Cosmos Created At One Go

This volume is meant to deal a death blow to those two concepts and assert that the world of matter and life was created all at one go by divinity as described in ancient Sanskrit scriptures. The Vedas were also delivered to humanity at the very start of the

universe as a book of all knowledge concerning the working of this complex and limitless cosmos. Simultaneously the administration of the universe was entrusted by divinty to a trained band of sages, and administrators known as Kshatriyas. They all spoke one universal God-given language namely Sanskrit. Eversince the world of human affairs has continued to function in a procreating and mutually educating cycle. That universality of administration and language continued right through from the start of creation, upto the Mahabharat war.

The Breakdown

The colossal nuclear devastation wrought by that war shattered the worldwide primordial Vedic, Sanskrit culture. It was then that the fragments of that earlier universal Vedic culture flew apart and came to be categorized as Syria, Assyria, Scythia, Babylonia, Greece, Rome, Egypt, China and India. The British Empire too was similarly dismembered into several independent nations after World War II

The so-called modern languages too are nothing more than regional corruptions of Sanskirt, generated after the Mahabharat war carnage led to the collapse of Sanskrit tuition throughout the world.

As against this very plausible and cohesive explanation of how modern languages are all mere dialects of Sanskrit, modern philologists advance some confused, haphazard and unconvincing arguments for the mutual inter-relationship of various languages.

This volume thus bridges all gaps, straightens out all confused thinking and provides a consistent and logical account of all history right from the creation, as has not been conceived, attempted or accomplished to our knowledge in modern times. Therefore, this volume should rank as belonging to a class by itself, a history of histories, a pace-setter and not as a mere one-among-many, humdrum history books.

In chapter after chapter hereafter we shall discuss different facets of human life, from military organization to medicine and theology to technology to point out that the basic concepts of so-called Jews, Zoroastrians, Buddhists, Christians, Muslims and people professing every other faith, the terminology they use and the spiritual practices they adhere to are all of Vedic origin.

The Ultimate History

Though in a way there is nothing ultimate in this world, since everything seems to be strung and moving in an unending cycle, like the belt of a machine yet in another sense, this volume may legitimately claim to be the ultimate in history because of its role in pointing out that Vedic culture and the Vedic language, Sanskrit constitute the eternal bond or the eternal thread that runs through all human life, speech and activity.

This should also sound very logical. Because, everything in this cosmos must proceed from one focal starting point in a systematic, consciously directed and controlled manner. The big bang concept of the physicists and the Darwinian concept of the evolution of the species and survival of the fittest envisage a random and freak beginning and growth. Survival of the fittest is a very illogical doctrine though it has a deceptively convincing ring about it.

In any traffic mishap or air accident we sometimes find an helpless infant safe while several hefty adults get killed. Is that survival of the fittest? In a storm stout, strong and tall trees are uprooted while tiny plants remain unmolested. Is that survival of the fittest? It then amounts to saying that one who survives must be the fittest while one who got killed was unfit. This is illogical.

All planets and stars are spherical objects flitting into a gigantic cosmic clockwork mechanism. Our own globe was one whole, round land mass. In course of time continents separted developing craggy outlines. The same thing happened to humanity. At the start of the cosmos for a long period humanity was united in the divine Vedic culture, everybody speaking Sanskrit. After the Mahabharat

war that social-administrative-political-linguistic-cultural unity was shattered. As a result, people 'got' divided into different regional units such as Scythia, Parthia, Syria, Assyria, Babylonia, Egypt and China.

The Estrangement

Later they became further divided, separated and estranged as they began speaking different varieties of broken Sanskrit, adopting different deities, professing strange ideologies and swearing allegiance to different creeds and religions.

Such schism is getting worse day-by-day. Smaller and smaller splinter groups are being created. This is perhaps humanity's destiny because cosmic prophecy as recorded in Sanskrit scriptures does indeed speak of such progressive deterioration in public standards and behaviour leading to dire distress and divisions in the present Kali Yug, the last and the worst in the eternal cycle of the Yugas.

Sikhism

India, the surviving central core of Vedic culture is itself under severe strain. Parts of its geographical corpus were torn apart in 1947. In recent times some ambitious, power-hungry politicians in the north are feverishly busy whipping up a mass hysteria misleading Sikh masses to proclaim that they are non-Hindus. What a travesty of truth and history it is to assert that the disciple-corps (that is what 'Sikh' alias 'Sishya' means) raised to save Hindudom by valiantly fighting against the Mughal army, is no more Hindu or was never Hindu! The fact that every Guru worshipped Vedic idols, and died to save Hindudom is easily forgotten. Though the Holy Granth is all full of the adoration of Vedic deities Sikh temples scrupulously omit to enshrine any of them. Their chief shrine, the Golden Temple at Amritsar displays paintings of the atrocities by the Muslims to resist which the then Hindus organized a brave disciple corps of valiant fighters. By conveniently by-passing and ignoring all that some self-styled leaders, having an eye on some petty gain, are declaring that Sikhs have closer affinity with the Muslims and that Hinduism is their common enemy. This amounts

to reading history topsyturvy. When even the Sikhs, who are the very flesh and blood of Hinduism have sprouted such leaders in our times, it is no wonder that in the distant past similar selfish considerations of a few individuals led to breakaway groups separating themselves from the world Vedic brotherhood, calling themselves Christianity and Islam.

Dravidism

Likewise in the south some non-Brahmin leaders are working up a mass hysteria against north Indians as a whole on the one hand, and against their own Brahmin community on the other. Their slogan is Dravidism which is absolutely indefensible historically.

Dravids (Dra=Drashta i.e. seer. Vid= Knower alias learned) was the name of the first group of Vedic sages who proceeded to South India and other parts of the world (such as Europe) to start Gurukulums i.e. educational and socio-economic training establishments. People graduating from these institutions played different roles in society as Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras. The current untouchability and disdain attaching to the Shudras started only with Islamic invasions when Hindu fluidity and virility was stifled and a petrified Hinduism failed to oust the Muslim invaders. It is since then, as in a game of musical chairs, that castes became birth-oriented. Whosover was a Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya or Sudra at the time of the Muslim onslaught, held on to that label for all generations to come no matter what he did for a living or the kind of life he led. Many such cobwebs of mistaken concepts need to be cleared.

This volume which plays that cleaning role, is in a way a history of histories and the ultimate in history because it achieves several objectives at one stroke. Firstly, it discovers a unitary start for universal humanity. Secondly, it clears the linguistic mess and confusion and points to the unerring conclusion that Sanskrit was the first language given to humanity by divinty. Thirdly, it points out the invalidity of the vague talk and confused notions about an Aryan race or Aryan people and clarifies that the term Arya

included everybody who led a life according to Vedic rules. Therefore, the term Arya doesn't connote any race or colour. Fourthly, this volume highlights a number of problems and puzzles of historical narration which have so far remained un-noticed, un-explained or slurred and glossed over with confused and haphazard explanations. Fifthly, this volume decisively discusses very many problems concerning the reading, writing, study, teaching and research in history, which had hitherto remained unknown.

Our contention that human affairs on our globe were given a headstart by divinity with an initial stock of well-trained human beings of all ages and all calibres, and with volumes of comprehensive knowledge (i.e.the Vedas) may be dismissed as merely superstitious and unscientific.

All humanity at any given moment will probably never be totally convinced about the way humanity at first populated this globe and progressed. Were human beings parachuted here from other heavenly bodies? Even if they were, how were they put to birth, reared or trained even on those other planets are some of the questions raised. The explanation that trained human beings were sent down to populate the earth from heaven or from other planets is the best that could be offered. It is not less "scientific" than the Darwinian theory or the Big Bang theory. It must be remembered here that a metaphysicist is as much a scientist as a physicist. In fact metaphysics is a much more superior science because it takes an overall view of every branch of life and every aspect of the world instead of confining itself only to one topic.

So whether well-trained adult humans were incubated in heaven or on earth or were parachuted here from elsewhere must remain as much a collective mystery for humanity as a whole as every child's conception, birth, progress, prowess and death remain an unknown mystery to it.

The assumption that the world of human affairs began with an initial well-trained generation of adult humans furnished with superior, divine knowledge (the Vedas) and equipped with a divine

language Sanskrit, is a most logical and scientific assumption because that is how any factory, field-game or a stage-play starts. Such organized productivity starts only with complete assets, preparation and skill provided in advance. It doesn't start with a protoplasm or a big bang. That is exactly what Sanskrit scriptures say. Therefore, those scriptures are fundamental scientific and historical documents recording the creation of the cosmos and of humanity.

Moreover, such a beginning is confirmed by historical research too. Pushing historical research further and further back in time from whatever point on earth such as Timor or Timbuktu we find the Vedas and Sanskrit language to be at the farthest end. Every language, religion, cult, creed or country finds itself related to the Vedas and to Sanskrit in the ultimate analysis. And since that twin heritage is India's preserve in our own times, every country on earth feels the need of indological research for an understanding of its own cultural background. According to the well-known adage, the proof of the pudding lies in its eating, similarly the proof for the conclusion that the Vedas and Sanskrit language form the primordial heritage of mankind from its very inception is provided by all kinds of evidence. Therefore, it has got to be accepted.

If people ask us how and where could God have trained the first generation of humans in their earthly duties, we may point to the humble bee as an instance. Who trained her in honey-manufacture? Similarly humanity too was born with is own congenital skills. This is why we have to believe the Sanskrit scriptures, viz the Vedas, the Puranas, the Epics (Ramayan and Mahabharat) and Manusmriti which constitute the earliest divine record of the creation of the cosmos, in God's own language, Sanskrit.

Narrow Range of Mundane Logic

To satisfy the heckler and quibbler, in mundane terms about the origins of humanity beyond what the scriptures say is not possible. It may be that man's mundane logic operates only within very narrow confines and it is beyond the capacity of the tiny human brain to comprehend the mystery before birth and after death.

This shouldn't be surprising when we know that all human senses such as smell, sight and hearing have fixed upper and lower limits beyond which they don't operate.

Basic Puzzles Remain Unsolved in all Spheres

That one is not able to satisfy man's basic question as to how creation began with a first generation of heaven-trained sages, rulers and craftsmen, is not a drawback of history alone. No branch of human learning is able to answer its basic questions. For instance, botanists don't know whether the seed came first or the tree? Biologists can't tell whether the egg came first or the hen? People can't explain whether it is effort which brings results or destiny? Physicists are puzzled whether light is a wave or particles? Oceanologists are surprised that oceans never overflow despite incessant inflow of water from innumerable rivers. Surgeons have failed to locate the cell where the soul resides in the body. A male pathologist who loves to flirt with women cannot explain why he likes to kiss their spittle and call it nectar on earth when he rants against human spittle in his medical classroom lecture as the dirtiest distasteful, dangerous and diseaseful thing on earth?

Man Has to Take the Creation for Granted

All the above instances indicate that whether in history or other spheres man has to take the world, as it is, for granted. He has to shape his life within the narrow confines circumscribed for him by divinity alias Nature. Man has to admit that the higher mysteries of cosmic life must remain unexplained to his tiny brain. Therefore, in the field of history too we have to admit, on the all-around evidence we notice, that the Vedas and Sanskrit did come to earth with humanity. How? Like the inborn honey-making skill of the bee we find that the Vedas and Sanskrit language along with the first generation of fully trained humans formed the basic stock-in-trade with which divinity (alias Nature) started the human world. We, therefore, take that as the starting point of human history.

How Ancient is Humanity?

Though classroom historians are likely to presume and assert

that they know the outline of world history fairly accurately, yet researchers concerned with truth and not with academic prestige and bluff and bluster confess that they know very little about the origin of humanity.

Dr. Donald C.Johnson of the Museum of National History, Cleveland, Ohio, USA, observes "Fossil discoveries in Europe, Africa and Asia are pushing human origins further back in time.... It is becoming increasingly clear that the scenario of human evolution is much more complex. The problem-time is three to ten million years ago. There appears to have been a great diversity of possible human ancestors, and we don't know how they were related."[1]

The Universality of Sanskrit

A similar wonder is expressed by scholars at the world sweep of Sanskrit literature and in fact of every aspect of Vedic culture. For instance, A.A.Macdonell observes in his book titled **India's Past** (page 116) "The history of how Indian fairy tales and fables migrated from one country to another to nearly all the people of Europe and Asia, and even to African tribes from their original home in India, borders on the marvellous. It is not a case of single stories finding their way by word of mouth... from India to other countries, but of whole Indian books becoming through the medium of translations the common property of the world...many fairy tales current among the most various people can be traced to their original home in India."

The Universality of Vedic Music

In an altogether different facet of human activity, namely music, once again we find Indian, Hindu, Vedic music to be the basis of world music. German author, Weber writes in his book on **Indian Literature** (page 297) "The Hindu scale - Sa, Re, Ga, Ma, Pa, Dha Nee has been borrowed also by the Persians, where we find it in the form of do, re, ma, fa, so, le, ci. It came to the West

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(1) P. 13, How old is man? from the Encyclopaedia of Ignorance, Pergamon, 1977.

and was introduced by Guido d'Arezzo in Europe in the form of do, re, mi, fa, sol, lo, ti...even the 'gamma' of Guido (French gramma, English gamut) goes back to the Sanskrit gramma and Prakrit gamma and is thus a direct testimony of the Indian origin of our European scale of seven notes."

Above is just a random sampling of how, no matter which aspect of human life scholars pick up for investigation, they are willy nilly led to the Indian, Hindu, Vedic, Sanskrit, Arya, Sanatan, origin of human culture.

Yet all these scholars have been working in individual isolation and bewilderment unaware of the common rendezvous to which they are all veering. It is like several people digging tunnels through a mountain from different directions and heading unknowingly to a common central intersection.

At such a juncture it is no mean providential coincidence that I conceived of this volume which is able to correlate the efforts and conclusions of scholars of a myriad facets of human activity, and to point out to them all, that instead of continuing to wonder in isolation about the Vedic terminal that they have reached; they should be aware of fellow scholars in other branches who are heading towards the same terminal.

And since they are all converging on a common point, instead of wasting their energies any more in hypothetical speculation, how very easy and gratifying would it be if they all hereafter concentrate on the study of the creation as expounded by Vedic tradition. Let all scholars of the world, of even science and technology, for once study with deep trust and faith what Vedic tradition and Sanskrit texts have to say about the origin of humanity and of their own special branch of study, even as a hypothesis. Such a study they will find very satisfying and illuminating and answering all their doubts.

Most scholars have hitherto placed implicit faith in concepts handed down by a Sir William Jones, Maxmueller and the like from an age in which notions of the Christian elite about the physical

world around them were very primitive. They may heed the warning of Herasim Lebedoff "From the above-stated specimens, it must be obvious to those who are acquainted with the Indian orthography and idiom, that Sir William Jones changed the words and their pronunciation, in consequence of his defective knowledge of the Sanskrit language. Many of the inquirers into Asiatic literature, however, have been induced to place an implicit confidence in his information, as authentic."[2]

Incidentally the name Herasim (of the author quoted above) is the Sanskrit name Hari-Simha i.e. the Lion of a man named Hari.

Because the contemporary world has relied till today on histories of India's Vedic, Hindu culture written by ignoramic and hostile alien Muslims and Christians it has developed topsy turvy prejudicial notions. For instance, in the field of music it is loosely asserted that India's alien Muslim invaders and monarchs gave a great fillip to Indian music through court patronage.

That chauvinistic claim propagated by Muslim court stooges and implicitly believed in by their sycophant following is scotched by Ethel Rosenthal's observation that "In **The Indian Empire**, Sir William Wilson Hunter remarked, that a regular system of notation had been worked out before the age of Panini and the seven notes were designated by their initial letters. This notation passed from the Brahmins through the Persians to Arabia, and was then introduced into European music by Guido d' Arezzo at the beginning of the 11th century...Hindu music, after a period of excessive elaboration, sank under the Muhammadans into a state of arrested development...."[3] Thus, far from enhancing music Islam degraded and stifled it.

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(2) P. XX A Grammar of the Pure and Mixed Indian Dialects....Methodically arranged at Calcutta, according to the Brahmanian system of the Sanskrit Language by Herasim Labedoff, London. printed by G. Skirven Ratcliff Highway, 1801 A.D.

(3) P. 2 The Story of Indian Music and its Instruments by Ethel Rosenthal.

How very systematically Christianity and Islam deliberately throttled the earlier world-wide Vedic culture may be gauged from Godfrey Higgins' observation that "In the isle of Baray there is one stone, about seven foot high, and when the inhabitants come near it, they take a religious turn around it according to the ancient Dravid custom (Borlase, page 163). This was called the Deisol (i.e. Sanskrit, Suryadev). By the Council of Paris in 1672 all these places were ordered to be destroyed, which proves their former existence and accounts for their present scarcity in France."[4]

Such suppression was a feature common to every country overtaken and overrun by Islam and Christianity. For instance, in Britain a **British Society of Antiquaries** existed in the time of Elizabeth and King James..... "but it being suggested that the said society would be prejudicial to certain great and learned bodies for that reason the members thought it fit to break it off. Nor were there wanting very powerful men that proved enemies to them, and among other things they were pleased to allege that some of the society were persons not only disaffected to but really of a quite different persuasion from the Church of England."[5]

This is yet another instance of topsy-turvy notions prevalent about history among modern intelligentsia. It is asserted almost axiomatically that the adoption of Christianity made the Europeans progressive and helped them usher the modern industrial civilization.

It may be recalled that Christianity took about a thousand years to spread over the whole of Europe (from the 4th to the 14th century). Thereafter, the so-called Industrial Revolution came a full 500 years later.

Contrarily a very closely guarded secret is that the European Industrial Revolution coincided with the plunder of ancient Sanskrit texts from India and their translation in Europe.

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(4) P. 213, The Celtic Druids, by Godfrey Higgins.

(5) Preface to A Collection of Curious Discourses written by Eminent Antiquaries upon several Heads in our English Antiquities, first published by Thomas Hearne, Oxford, printed at the Theatre, M-DCC.XX

If, therefore, Europe ushered the present machine - age that is not because of Christianity but in spite of Christianity. Because, it is apparent from the evidence cited above that Christianity long held the Europeans in the vice of primitive ante-diluvian notions. Besides, Christianity suppressed all pre-Christian history of Europe and forbade any research into the past. Such was the terror of the Church of England that a society of antiquarians had to dissolve and disband itself for fear of the Church.

As against such terror of Islam and Christianity which enslaves human minds, Vedic tradition not only allows full rein to one's logic but also makes the pursuit of truth and freedom from the constraints and miseries of earthly existence the highest goal. It should, therefore, be the duty of every right-thinking person not only to acquaint himself with Vedic culture but live according to its tenets to re-establish the unity of mankind and of the entire globe sans political and racial divisions.

It is this realization of the need to acquaint humanity with the intellectual restraints in which it has been placed by sectarian interests, with the false chauvinistic notions on which it has been fed and with the amount of history that has been deliberately blacked out or distorted, which impelled me to present to the world this volume revealing our common divine Vedic inheritance.

The Chronological Skeleton

It is usually presumed that since a general chronological outline of history comprising accounts of dynastic rule or of democratic regimes and of battles etc. is generally well known what more could any new book on history tell?

Such a view of history amounts to a dry, dull, dead concept like a human skeleton hung in a doctor's clinic. Though similar skeletons form the frame of every human being, yet each personality's look, activity, thoughts, capabilities, voice, intelligence and prowess are far different and are not deducible from the skeleton. Likewise, the pith and flesh of the personality of every country will not be apparent from a mere chronological sketch of its past. The skeleton

of a beauty queen and of an ugly witch will seem the same but the reactions that the two inspired while alive would be widely different. Therefore, though the chronological skeletons of, say, a Muslim Arabia or Christian England or a Hindu India between the 8th and 20th centuries may look closely similar as being pockmarked by battles etc. yet the refinements and specialities of Hindu culture will have hardly any comparable counterparts in the other two.

India itself as a geographical entity would be hardly distinguishable from other land masses. But as a continuing home of Hinduism alias Vedic culture India is incomparable. Vedic culture is not only India's speciality it is a world phenomenon. Therefore, too the present volume ought to be regarded not as a humdrum history book but as a history of histories.

Overall Informal Discourse

This volume is a kind of an informal discourse or a fire-side chat (devoid of technical jargon) on matters pertaining to world history and culture addressed both to laymen and professionals.

It presents one principal discovery namely that Vedic culture and Sanskrit language pervaded the whole world from the beginning of time, and an auxiliary discovery that the current historical research system needs to be spruced up, because though a number of facts were widely known they were hitherto treated as stray bits not fitting into any systematic pattern. The World Vedic Heritage discovery expounded in this volume correlates all those known-details and shows that they point to a systematic single-source beginning for humanity.

This may, at first sight, appear to be a random hypothesis. But many-a-time even a random hypothesis proves to be the ultimate solution. This happens practically in every branch of learning. In Physics, for instance, Max Planck (a German) proposed in 1900 A.D the quantum theory of electromagnetic radiation (light) to explain the spectrum of radiation emitted by a body. Planck was

but it alone seemed to adequately explain all the known properties of radiation as against other prevailing theories. And later Planck's hypothesis was found to have a sound logicalism.

Thus a very useful research rule is to accept a theory which unifies all known facts into a systematic doctrine to the exclusion of others which have failed to explain the inter-relation of all details.

In view of the above discussion the subject matter of this volume falls into two main parts, one presenting the Unified Field Theory of History, and the other discussing research methodology.

The presentation is made in an informal manner, avoiding strait-jacketed norms and forms. For instance, source references have been at times quoted within brackets during the course of the narrative itself instead of distractingly relegating them to the bottom as footnotes.

Likewise in some stray instances matters pertaining only to Indian history have also been included. That is to illustrate how methods of historical analysis can be applied to specific situations.

Ancillary information is also provided on several topics wherever possible to give readers a more comprehensive or correct idea of the Vedic way of life.

At times some subjective didactic remarks have also been thrown in with the conviction that history cannot be treated as a formal curricular subject useful merely for passing an academic examination. When even fairy tales have a moral, history can never be divested of its moral. History can be meaningful only if its study is related to the present bearings of the individual, the moorings of his nation and the stirrings of humanity as a whole. The current general tedency of treating history as an impersonal subject like, say, geography or mathematics militates against the basic objective behind the study of history.

All such innovations found in this volume may persuade some academicians inured to current straight-backed, impersonal treatment of history, to berate the research value of this volume.

To such I would like to point out that the obiter dicta included in this voluume should be considered as an embellishment or supplement and not as a detracting factor. Those who have no taste or stomach for the didactic treatment of history in this volume may still benefit from the rest of the matter which they consider to be of academic relevance.

History tells us that every head of state is the Defender of (a certain) Faith. Likewise ordinary, academic history too is meant to make a citizen aware of his nation's faith and of the basic faith of humanity as a whole.

In that same tradition this volume has a wider, higher and nobler faith to sustain namely to make the world aware that humanity as a whole must rise above the current crippling political barriers and religious divisions to its original, unitary universal faith.

Special Format

Such a volume, written in defence of that universal, primordial Vedic Sanskrit faith, being unique in conception, its contents, called for a format of its own. Therefore, the author hopes that readers would glean whatever is useful and not treat it as compromised or cancelled out by what does not meet their taste. It would be unjust to expect this volume to conform to the narrow confines of a traditional research work, because this volume while certainly being a research publication has several other dimensions and functions too.

Several Unique Features.

Though a number of volumes on history keep appearing in print all over the world everyday, yet in all modesty and earnestness the present work is claimed to occupy a very unique place in world historical literature. It is believed that within living memory such a comprehensive and single-source account correlating all known evidence into a systematic pattern of world history starting from the creation and solving all historical riddles along the way has neither been attempted nor convincingly executed earlier.

Take, for instance, the very terms 'Genesis' and 'Nemesis' signifying respectively the very beginning and end of the cosmos. Standard English dictionaries (and all other European dictionaries too) offer a haphazard, roundabout explanation reaching out to some Greek root as the dead-end. But the etymological explanations they provide are not right, because the history currently taught at school, is faulty. For instance, the word 'genesis' is not based on any Latin, French or Greek root (as gen 'to become') but it is the Sanskrit word 'janma' namely to be born. Similarly the term Nemesis (is not from the Greek root nemo, 'to give what is due' as the Oxford Dictionary explains) is the common Sanskrit expression (नामशेष) 'nam-sesh' i.e. becoming so destroyed or extinct as to exist only in name.

This should help not only in understanding the close nexus between etymology and history but should also serve to alert scholars of every branch of learning that history being at the very root, if history goes wrong, conclusions in their own fields of learning are likely to go absolutely awry.

One of the functions of this volume is to remove that feeling of smugness and complacence in the minds of the intelligentsia and urge it to take a second, fresh, close look at world history. The framework of world history erected in their minds heretofore may have to be dismantled and replaced by a better one.

Another aim is to impress on the reader the need to pay serious attention to ancient records and traditions and not dismiss them as mere chauvinistic myths or poetic fancies. The Ramayan and Mahabharat, for instance, carry copious and fairly detailed accounts (considering their remote antiquity) of sovereignty over 'three worlds', interstellar travel and devastating missiles. All these were unbelievable fantasies in the Victorian era when European scholars wrote most of our current histories. But in our own age Russia and the USA are actually building up arsenals and barrages of fearful missiles, satellites and beams of the very kind that are said to have been used in bygone eras by the Devas and Demons in their rivalry.

History, therefore, seems to be a story of eternal conflict between different sections of humanity with the traces of the past being constantly wiped out by the belligerents in mutual assaults.

But apart from such human destruction, or erasures of evidence by the natural elements such as air, fire and water it is the aim of this volume to show that there is also a more drastic mode in which divinity or Nature wipes out traces of past civilizations. Just as a school-boy writes on one side of a slate; then wipes it off with water, but until that side dries up for re-use he writes on the other side of the slate; or just as a farmer turns the soil with his plough to remove every trace of an harvested crop to sow another crop, could it not be visualized that divinity too keeps on swallowing older civilizations by sucking them inside the earth or submerging them under the oceans or making them vanish in the thin air? This is apparent from the numerous stone statues surviving at remote, isolated spots such as those on Easter Island and the ruins of the Incas sighted in desolate mountainous terrain? This law or mode of Nature of writing a finis to past chapters of history also needs to be taken into account.

Yet, despite such breaks, dents, gaps and voids, there has been a Vedic Sanskrit thread connecting them all - is what is being presented in this volume as a new discovery, as a connecting link and as a master-key to understand what had been hitherto regarded as inexplicable details or independent uniform patterns.

Incidentally, the law of nature cited by us above, of starting humanity on a new slate by cataclysmic extinction of old civilizations may have a lesson for geologists and biologists too. Geologists have found that many a time older rocks come on top of younger rocks while archaeologists often end up with discovering only potsherds and stone implements. Therefrom they conclude that we are the first to make scientific and technological progress. They are unable to reconcile the realistic descriptions of technological achievements of the past with the primitive relics found.

Therefore, the law stated by us above is likely to help geologists

and archaeologists also in solving certain riddles of their own branches of learning. Thus again we see how flaws in history affect other fields of study. In this sense metaphysics may be deemed to be a science of sciences because it helps us understand divine laws affecting all aspects of human life.

Some of the chapters included in this volume, such as the one dealing with the Vedic socio - economic system or the derivation of Indian names are to equip the reader with a lot of general information to lead to a better overall understanding of the main thesis of this book, and also to enable the reader to tackle historical riddles which he may confront in future.

Several chapters of this book present information and explanations totally unknown to the scholastic world such as the pre-Christian origin of the Papacy in Rome and of the Archbishopry of Canterbury in Britain, the Ramayan and Mahabharat having been as much the epics of Europe as of India and of Sanskrit being the source language of all human speech.

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DE-BRIEFING AND DISINFECTION

Everybody's mind is like a palimpsest. A man is born with some in-built tendencies and preferences. These get qualified later by what he hears, sees, learns or experiences. Those impressions and inclinations are further modified by his job requirements and his religious, political and national affiliations.

Thus no one comes to think afresh on a given topic with an open or clean mind. In the case of this volume particularly, such an approach would prove frustrating and infructuous because the very subject-matter of this volume runs counter to almost all major concepts fondly hugged by contemporary intelligentsia.

Those in authority everywhere these days have been tutored to believe that the material world was created with a big bang in the high heavens; that life evolved from a protoplasm, that man developed from a monkey, that the Aryans are a race which immigrated into India from abroad, that the Vedas are non-descript ballads composed by primitive nomads, that the Rigved was composed around 1200 B.C. and the other Vedas at 200 years' interval thereafter, that the Ramayan, the Mahabharat and the Puranas are myths, that while every other nation knew figures 1 to 9 India taught them the use of a zero only a couple of thousand years ago, that Muslim invaders made a great cultural contribution by their murder and massacre sorties into India, that Muslims almost always built only tombs and tombs and mosques and mosques but hardly any mansions for the living ever, that the Muslims have had an

architecture of their own though they have no ancient architectural texts and no standards of measurement, that West Asia had no culture and history worth the name before Mahomad and Europe had no past worth any mention before Jesus, that Sanskrit, Latin, Greek, Arabic and such other languages developed somewhere, and that soon after the monkey-man stage and cave-man stage man somehow organized states like Syria, Assyria, Scythia, Parthia, Greece, Rome, Egypt and China.

All such concepts which are these days considered the very quintessence of knowledge and badges of the highest scholarship are challenged in this volume.

Readers are, therefore, requested to approach this volume with an open mind, a mind like a clean slate shedding their pre-conceived and pre-tutored notions.

Such de-briefing of one's mind is something like washing a kitchen clean before starting cooking a meal for the day, and like thoroughly disinfecting an operation-theatre before starting a major surgical operation.

When a whole set of old, deeply imbedded ideas have to be uprooted and thrown out to learn new ones such unlearning, calls for tremendous courage and effort.

An illustrious illustration of such an effort actually carried out leading to brilliant results is found in the life of Swami Dayanand about 150 years ago.

As a young man who had been imparted the usual mundane schooling he happened to request a blind ascetic, Virajanand to instruct him in the Vedas.

The blind sage agreed to accept the young aspirant as a pupil the day he would burn all his mundane text-books. And surprisingly the would-be pupil did as directed. Later this young man blossomed into the great Dayanand, founder of the Arya Samaj and interpreter of the Vedas. Swami Dayanand's interpretation of the Vedas inspires great awe and respect all round though it is completely at variance

with what a dime-a-dozen lecturers, sporting doctoral degrees, teach as mercenaries in academies around the world.

There are two vital lessons for the world in this. One is that the education imparted by run-of-the-mill mundane mercenaries is hardly ever free of falsehoods and distortions because there imparting true knowledge is not the main consideration. Professional convenience and rewards of office determine the content of what the mercenary will divulge, teach or openly profess. Contrarily an ascetic scholar would fearlessly speak out what he sees as the Truth. It was this realization which made Vedic culture train its top scholars to renounce temporal ambitions and lead a life of service and frugality. The second lesson is that real knowledge can be imbibed more thoroughly only if one unlearns, debriefs and disinfects the mind of all earlier tutoring as Dayanand did.

And that should not be difficult on a little reflection. After all the big bang theory or Darwin's evolution doctrine are single - man speculative concepts. Nobody can be found to have seen or heard the big bang. The Darwinian doctrine of man evolving out of a monkey too lacks total credibility since men and monkeys have been co-existing for ages all around us and yet not a single monkey is ever seen to be transformed into a human being. Such untenable doctrines are believed in by contemporary intelligentsia only because they are paid for it and they have been tutored into believing in those concepts from positions of authority. The new generation is further paid to pass-on those same faulty doctrines to its juniors and subordinates from their own positions of authority. On sober reflection such education will be seen to be based on coercion. Contrarily we request the reader to purge his mind of that compulsive tutoring and realize that he has a right to think anew with an open mind on matters presented in this volume through better logic and new evidence.

♦♦

HOW MUCH HISTORY DOES THE WORLD KNOW?

It turns out that the world of today knows very little true history. It is our endeavour in this volume to show that all modern historical treatises comprise only a few recent genealogies and chronologies. Basic material information about the world's ancient past remains unknown.

Natural Obliteration

One very natural reason for this is that with every new generation the history of a few remoter generations is automatically wiped out from public memory. Ask any individual about his ancestors. He will be able to mumble some information about his father and grandfather alone. But about his great grand father and remoter ancestors he would not know even their names. Likewise the modern world too knows only two generations of history, so to say, namely, one of Mohamad and the other of so-called Jesus. What the world has forgotten is that before the Christian era it was all unitary Vedic culture throughout the world, and Sanskrit used to be the common language of all.

Suppression

Recapitulating that lost history is the subject matter of this volume. That is a very vital part of history concerning all humans and yet, surprisingly, it has all been suppressed, ignored and forgotten during Christian and Muslim domination of the world. Rampaging neo-convert Roman Christian and Arab Muslim armies

destroyed all vestiges of the worldwide Vedic culture that survived the great Mahabharat War and plunged the world into an age of dark, stark ignorance; so much so that a Christian Europe woke up hailing the primitive primary pronouncements of a Galileo, Copernicus or Newton as great discoveries without knowing that all those amount to rudimentary lessons of the hoary, divine, worldwide Vedic civilization.

Why Dark Age?

The term "Dark Age" is well known in European history. But its rationale has remained unexplained so far. This was but natural because a Christian Europe was unable to perceive (just as a man's back is hidden from his own eyes) that neo-Christian and neo-Muslim, convert zeal had itself been the cause. In its eagerness to make a complete breakaway from the heathen, Vedic past neo-convert Christians blotted out every Vedic school and seminary and other establishment of public enlightenment and culture. Islam also played a similar sinister, destructive role in West Asia. Yet both Christianity and Islam self-righteously, but without any justification whatsoever, claim having ushered in eras of enlightenment. This is how partisan chauvinism blatantly falsified history.

Any embezzlement is bound to leave incriminating evidence. Muslim and Christian tampering with history too reveals many inexplicable lacunae. It is some of these we intend to bring to readers' notice.

"Bachelor" Degree

Consider the Bachelor degree. Bachelor signifies an unmarried person. And yet an overwhelming majority of those calling themselves bachelors are married. How is it then that no university has made any provision for exchanging that Bachelor degree for a 'Married Man' (M M) degree after the male degree-holder acquires a marital status?

In the case of women the situation is even more bizarre. In

the English dictionary even an unmarried woman is never called a bachelor. With what justification then do universities, which are seats of the highest learning, confer the Bachelor (of Arts, Science, Commerce, Law, Medicine, Engineering etc) degree on women? Can any modern scholar explain away that incongruity? This shows how those who are taught fabricated, concocted history are unable to satisfactorily explain away such discrepancies, even as an embezzler of bank money is hard put to satisfactorily reconcile the lacunae left by his meddlesome, misappropriating hand.

Matriculation

Take another instance. Matriculation is the name of the final examination of school education. What does the term MATRICULATION mean? Do all those letters spell out a school-end examination? Standard English dictionaries stammer out the explanation that Matricula in Latin signifies a register. That explanation does not enlighten us. If it is contended that the names of all those qualifying at that examination are listed in a certain register, hence the name, that same explanation should apply to all other examinations as well. In that case the term matriculation would be a synonym of the word 'examination' and not of the school-end examination alone. It should be apparent, therefore, that even dictionary-makers trot out make-believe, half-hearted, improvised explanations which cannot stand close cross-examination. This is but natural when so-called philologists and compilers of dictionaries too have learned the same faulty world-history which scholars of other fields have studied. For this reason rewriting world history would necessitate rewriting even the dictionaries of European and Islamic languages.

Muslim Armies But Not Christian Armies

Let us now consider a third instance. In Indian mediaeval history armies of Muslim invaders of diverse nationalities are invariably referred to only as Muslim armies while the armies of European powers such as the French, British and the Portuguese are never dubbed as Christian armies... Why? Practially no scholar will be

able to give a plausible explanation.

Jesus's Birth A Myth

Another inexplicable fact in modern histories concerns Jesus. Christian scholars admit that Jesus was neither born on December 25 of 1 A.D. nor at the stroke of midnight. If that is so, is not celebrating his birth on December 25 a public deception? Nobody seems to be clear either whether even that imaginary birth ought to be placed at the zero hour of the night between December 24/25 or December 25/26?

When it is admitted that Jesus was not born on the first day of 1 A.D. does that not automatically vitiate our reckoning of both B.C. and A.D. years? Scholars of Christian tradition whisper that Jesus may have been born in 4 B.C. Even that is not known for certain. And even there the date and time of his birth are unknown.

Confusion in B.C. and A.D. Computation

Even assuming that Jesus was born on December 25, the first day of 1 A.D. should have been reckoned to be December 25. That is to say December 25 should have been the New Year Day which it is not, which means 1 A.D. starts at least a week after Jesus's birth or 51 weeks earlier. In other words, the B.C. era continued at least for a week or even 51 weeks after Christ was born. So much for the day of his birth. But when it is admitted that even the year of his birth is speculative it ought to be clear that our reckoning of the B.C. and A.D. eras is off the mark not by mere weeks but by years. Whether that unknown quantity of years is plus or minus in the present reckoning of the Christian era is further unknown. This detail itself should be enough to convince open-minded scholars that Jesus is a fictitious non-person. But that is not our topic in this chapter. What we are concerned with here is, pointing out that modern histories are confused conglomerates of numerous fictitious concepts. Jesus and his so-called era is one of them.

The Months

We now come to the months of the year. The terms Septem

(ber), Octo (ber), Novem (ber) and Decem (ber) signify the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th months respectively. Even that is known to very few. But what justifies that ranking when in modern usage those months are actually reckoned as the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th respectively? Had modern historians known the answer to those questions they wouldn't have remained ignorant of the world's pre-Christian Vedic heritage.

Christmas

Let us now examine the term X'mas. If X doesn't signify Jesus and 'Mas' doesn't connote a birthday how come X'mas means Christ's birthday? Christians, and especially the clerics will try to churn out some improvised explanation but in the heart of their hearts they would have to admit that they don't know the answer.

The other connected question could be, why is X'mas not alternatively known as, say Y'mas or Z'mas?

The Papacy

Why is the head priest of Christianity known as a pontiff or as Pope in English and Papa in French? What is the origin of the word?

Why is the Pope's edict known as a bull and not an ass or a tiger, for instance?

Vatican

What is the origin of the term Vatican?

It is obviously presumed by all modern historians that the Papacy and the Vatican are Christian institutions. If that were so they should have been founded around 1 A.D. or at least during the lifetime of Jesus. But both the Papacy and the Vatican have a pre-Christian history. Most scholars would be surprised to hear this.

Rome

Why is Rome known as the eternal city? and if Rome was

founded by Remus and Romulus, as is currently vaguely believed, how do the names of those two individuals lead to the name Rome?

What was the religion (or religions) of the world before Judaism, Buddhism, Christianity and Islam?

What is the origin of the name Aegypt?

Cocktail

What is the justification for a blend of several liquors to be known as cocktail?

What is the origin of the tailcoat?

We can reel out a number of such questions which present theories are hard put to explain. This is only to indicate how unsatisfactory contemporary knowledge about world history is. *This volume is intended to provide the world with a master-key to all history and to acquaint humanity with its lost unitary Vedic heritage from the beginning of time, so that all questions of the type mentioned above may be properly answered.*

♦♦

THE CURRENT HODGE-PODGE OF HISTORY

All current historical texts are confused, distorted and truncated accounts. We want academicians throughout the world, to realize this serious flaw and reform tuition in history. Here we propose to give only a few glaring instances of untenable or confused concepts that are being taught in the name of history. We do not claim to catalogue all faults and flaws in contemporary teaching, writing and research in history because those might be too many for a single mind to comprehend or catalogue. But the instances we cite here should certainly help readers in identifying and weeding out other faults.

When did the world Begin?

The first glaring fault that haunts current history-texts is that no one seems to be sure when the world began. During the Victorian era the world was believed to have been created one fine morning in 4004 B.C. And eversince world historians have never publicly repudiated that notion. For all practical and official purposes they must be deemed to hold on to that view. Yet historians in their wordly wisdom are shrewd enough never even to utter that date. Because, to express faith in that year as marking the beginning of this world would expose them to public ridicule. They, therefore, prefer to remain discreetly mum on that vital point about the very commencement of the world.

No Aryan Race

The second fault is the talk about an Aryan race. On this point

too historians prefer to be vague. Nobody seems to know who started the notion of an Aryan race. Historians are supposed to have inherited some such basic ideas from Maxmueller. But Maxmueller himself had warned that the Aryans shouldn't be considered to be a race. Yet somehow the notion persists that Aryans constitute a race and almost every scholar talks in terms of an Aryan race. In fact contemporary scholars are incapable of interpreting history without assuming the existence of some race known as Aryans.

How Many Races?

A further confusion on that point is that historians do not seem to be sure how many races there are in the world. Therefore they talk vaguely of Negroids, Semites, Mongolians, Europeans, Dravidians, Indians etc. and find to their discomfiture that what they term to be the Aryan race cuts across two or more groups named above. On this point too, therefore, historians prefer to remain sweetly vague and skip over the topic glibly, taking care never to discuss it in depth lest the hollowness of their belief may become too uncomfortable to bear and sustain.

Abrupt Beginning

A third fault is that modern texts begin abruptly by mentioning a number of ancient communities such as Scythians, Babylonians, Chinese, Egyptians, Greeks etc. without being very clear about their co-relation or sequence and as to how and when man, emerging from a monkey (?) a la Darwin, evolved those different states.

Architectural Misconception

A fourth fault is about classifying architecture. Hindu buildings built according to ancient Sanskrit texts have been merrily attributed to Muslim invaders. There again there is further confusion. Some, like Percy Brown term it as Islamic architecture. Others like E.B. Havell call it Hindu architecture, while most others describe it as Indo-Islamic. None seems to be sure whether the historic buildings around the world, deemed to be Islamic, were built by Hindu designers

according to Islamic texts or by Muslim designers according to Islamic texts or by Muslim designers according to Hindu texts? Therefore, historians and architects end up by classifying it as Indo-Islamic to hide their uncertainty and remain equivocative. Greek and Roman architecture is sometimes deemed to belong to a class by itself while at times it is regarded to be akin to Hindu architecture. Likewise, Gothic architecture is associated with Christendom and yet on deeper reflection it has got to be admitted as of pre-Christian origin.

Baseless Assertions

A fifth, highly unpardonable fault is that all around the world thousands of historic buildings have been conceded to be of Islamic origin without calling for any evidence. A planted cenotaph inside or Koranic grafts outside and hearsay has been enough for historians, archaeologists and architects to write tomes after tomes waxing eloquent over the characteristics of fancied Islamic architecture.

Double Standards

Double standards are also being followed in history teaching and writing. While a history of Russia written by Hitler will be summarily repudiated by the former, and a history of Great Britain written by Napoleon will be never tolerated by the Britishers, in the matter of Hindu history, art, architecture and even scriptures Muslim and Christian scribblings are deemed to be the most authoritative. Muslims and Christians should be deemed to be disqualified from writing on Hindu history not only because they have had a record of studied hostility to Vedic culture but also because they are mere babes of yester-years whose outlook on the world and the antiquity of time doesn't extend much beyond a Mohamad or Jesus.

Christian and Muslim Short Sight

A Muslim is unable to visualize any period of history or region of the world in a non-Islamic context. The same is true of Christian scholars. They are obsessed with Christendom and Europe. To them

anything pre-Christian must be bundled up as heathen, pagan and must end up in Greece and Rome. Thus their intellectual horizons are stunted and severely circumscribed by their latter-day religious loyalties and their regional affiliations. A remarkable vindication of the above conclusion of mine came my way when I wrote to the Head of the Department of French Civilization at the Harvard University in U.S.A. asking for some information about pre-Christian France. The single line reply I received was that they know nothing of pre-Christian France. This connotes a very appalling state of research regimen amongst Western scholars. That reply from Harvard indicates that Western academics and academies are sworn to write off the pre-Christian history of Europe. To them it is of no consequence at all. Branding and bundling up the whole of it as HEATHEN they prefer to consign it to perpetual oblivion. The same is true of Muslims mutatis mutandis. This necessitates reviewing all pre-Muslim and pre-Christian history and rectifying subsequent distortions. Thus, what passes for history today is Muslim and Christian wishful thinking. In so doing, therefore, naturally their research methodology too has been warped out of shape. They have ignored heaps of unsuitable evidence and based their ponderous conclusions on flimsy, irrelevant, irrational and contrived data or arguments.

Current historical texts are consequently a confused conglomerate of Anglo-Islamic alias Euro-Islamic alias Christo-Islamic convenience.

Linguistics

Likewise in linguistics, languages have been arbitrarily and confusedly classified as Semitic, Dravidian, Indo-Aryan or Indo-Germanic or Indo-European as though Europe, Germany and Aryan are synonymous.

There is thus no end to the chaotic hodge-podge of concepts regarded as immutable in current historical texts.

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WHAT LED ME TO THIS DISCOVERY?

The principles, concepts and narrative of history expounded in this volume and through my other publications and lectures have at times prompted inquisitive minds to inquire about the cause and source of my radically different thinking.

Sage Vyas, the author of the epic Mahabharat, reputed in Vedic tradition to have forestalled and decisively answered every possible question relating to human affairs, has, true to that reputation, also provided an answer to the question mentioned above.

The Law of Discovery

An eternal law he has enunciated, in this regard, lays down -

"When at the end of an era
Vedas and history get lost
Inspired by Brahma they are recast
In penance by a mind with an aura".

That is to say, Vedas and history which tend to disappear at the end of an era reappear through divine prompting in the minds of individuals engrossed in tapasya i. e. meditative concentration. This same rule applies to all great discoveries. These are made, not by mercenaries during routine employment but by devoted souls.

Research Needs Flash of Genius

Incidentally, this has a lesson for posterity. Routine, hired research should be discouraged. Instead individuals duly educated should be allowed to go out into the wide world to pursue their

avocations. While so engaged those exhibiting special dedication and an inventive spark on their own initiative and inspiration, unmindful of rest, remuneration and reputation who make a mark of their own as dramatists, producers, artists, poets or scientific and technological geniuses, should be adopted by the universities, academies and the state administration as their national scholars and provided all facilities to work in peaceful, secluded concentration.

Concentrated Contemplation

In my own case since childhood I had an irresistible natural urge to visit historic forts, palaces, temples and towers. I used to roam in those historic surroundings, enchanted and engrossed in studying the massive masonry and musing over the stirring happenings in those locations. Even when at home, on bed or at the dining table, my thoughts hovered around those stately buildings whose gracious outlines used to stretch themselves before my mind's eye.

Disturbing Questions

After about 35 years of gorging of those gorgeous sights, and incessant chewing of the cud of historical rumination some disturbing questions cropped up in my mind. I wondered how most historic buildings in India were ascribed only to Muslim rulers whose reign in India started in 1206 A.D. What had happened to historical mansions prior to that date? Where did the 7000-year long line of Hindu monarchs from the Pandavas to Prithviraj live if they had no worthy mansions? If they had no stately buildings what for did Muslims invade India? Did they wage war only to capture large tracts of open land? And if invading alien Muslims could raise stately mansions and forts during their uncertain and tumultuous tenures how is it that native Hindu Kings had not built any mansions for themselves and their progeny on their own native soil? Even if alien Muslim invaders are supposed to have built those buildings how is it that there are only tombs and tombs and mosques and mosques but no corresponding mansions? Is it possible that persons who did not have a roof over their own head would be solicitous enough

to provide mosques galore for the poor and mausoleums galore for all and sundry? And when in Muslim regimes successors murdered their predecessors and brother killed brother, did it stand to reason that they would raise stupendous palatial mausoleums over the bodies of slain rivals when none raised any mansions for them or for himself and his wives and children? If at all those mausoleums and mosques were actually raised by the Muslims where are the design drawings and expenditure sheets? Where again are the Muslim text-books of architecture if they were such great master-builders? And if royal treasuries got plundered and expended on internecine succession struggles, where was the money left to raise mosques and mausoleums?

Colossal Falsification

Any number of such questions running riot in my mind made me so uneasy as to compel me to study Muslim chronicles. And I was shocked to discover that there is no contemporary record of any Muslim ruler having raised any building. There are only sly, sketchy, shoddy claims a few generations later by idle Muslim chauvinists, ascribing some stray buildings to some Muslim ancestor, real or fictitious. What was more shocking was that historians, architects and archaeologists all over the world had not only allowed all those shady claims to pass muster but had themselves unwittingly buttressed that colossal falsification of history by publishing massive volumes describing the fancied niceties and characteristics of non-existent Islamic architecture and had trained generations of degree-holders all over the world to repeat that trash parrot-like and to perpetuate that fantasy.

Brainwashed Intelligentsia

The result of centuries of that universal brain-washing has been so disastrous and tragic that today among millions of journalists, historians, architects, archaeologists and other scholars around the world not one is ready to admit the mistake about the Taj Mahal and other so-called Muslim buildings for fear of professional loss of face. They have neither the honesty nor professional sense of

duty to engage in a judicious review of the antecedents of historic buildings. They keep discreetly mum but doggedly persist in ascribing those buildings to one Muslim or the other in an attempt to desperately cling to their own cultivated beliefs even if they are wrong.

History a Casualty

The distorted history of ancient buildings is a graphic instance of how history becomes a casualty under alien rule. That era of alien rule which had begun in India in 712 A.D. and ended in 1947 has resulted in the falsification of India's history.

Reconstruction of History

And exactly as enunciated by sage Vyas the reconstruction of that lost history began to take shape in my mind soon after 1947, because of my unwitting TAPASYA (concentrated meditation) through divine promptings. So much so that in the December 19, 22 and 26, 1961, issues of KESARI (a Marathi newspaper published from Pune) my thesis appeared in the form of three lengthy articles under banner headlines and the same thesis was read by me as a research paper at the silver jubilee session of the All India History Congress held in Pune in December 1963.

The Big Discovery

That was the beginning of my career as a researcher in history. The big discovery that I had made viz that the entire Islamic achitecture theory being propagated around the world is without foundation, led me to examine all history from times immemorial. And I made several more discoveries, some of which I have expounded in about 14 publications heretofore. But I feel that the world has strayed so far away from real history that nothing short of founding a World Vedic Heritage University can cope with the problem. The dimensions of this discovery are thus as colossal as its divine origin is mysterious.

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THE FIVE-THOUSAND-YEAR BARRIER

All modern historical research in any direction seems to stumble into some mysterious, incognizable 5000-year barrier.

Talking about the Indus Valley civilization or of Egypt or the Hittites or China our search proceeds only upto 5000 years at the most and no more.

In some other respects we even meet with a sub-barrier of 2500 to 3000 years. Thus Maxmueller placed the Vedas at no more than 1200 B.C. The Japanese talk of their royal line to be 2500 years ancient. The Chinese, the Koreans and several others trace back their known history more or less to that same length of time.

That historians tracing back the history of any country or civilization are unable to see beyond 3000 to 5000 years seems surprising when humanity is believed to be millions of years ancient.

What is that 5000-year curtain beyond which humanity draws a blank ?

That 5000-year barrier is the cataclysmic Mahabharat war. That war resulted in nuclear destruction on a vast scale. Besides, that war was also followed by a number of other calamities such as earthquakes and storms. Those great upheavals almost wiped out earlier records and history from public memory.

Some sketchy history of that millions-of-years stretch beyond the Mahabharat war, reaching back to the time of the cre tion,

has come down to us recorded in the Sanskrit Puranas (i.e. ancient histories).

Lord Krishna had undertaken a special peace mission in a last-moment effort to avoid that highly destructive conflict. He appealed to the Kaurava prince, Duryodhan to relent. He foresaw a cataclysmic disaster for humanity as a whole. But his appeal fell on deaf ears. The war did follow. Nuclear and biological weapons and fire-arms were used by the combatants on a colossal scale and a gigantic section of humanity was wiped out.

A number of natural disasters also followed. The magnificent Dwarka, the city of gold was swallowed by the sea soon after Lord Krishna, its divine ruler died.

The Yadavas (i.e.the Judaists alias the Jews) had to evacuate the Dwarka region and migrate to the Sur and Asur (i.e. Syria and Assyria) regions to begin life anew in what we know today as the Mosul tract on the border of Iran and Iraq. Later they had again to move on to Palestine, Jerusalem and Egypt.

Until the Mahabharat war humanity was united under a universal administration. All people followed the Vedic way of life and spoke Sanskrit from the start of creation i.e. from the Kruta Yug to the end of the Dwapar Yug and the beginning of Kaliyug.

The Vedic civilization and Sanskrit language have thus pervaded the world for millions of years prior to the Mahabharat strife.

It was the destruction caused by that war which led to the fragmentation of the unitary, universal Vedic system. Likewise that war also led to the breakdown of the universal Gurukul system of Sanskrit education. Therefore, local variations of Sanskrit hardened into modern languages. This is what explains their linkage with Sanskrit.

Later with the imposition of Christianity over Europe by the Roman army and of Islam over West Asia by Arab armies humanity was further estranged from its pre-Mohamed and pre-Christian past. These two religions denounced and destroyed all previous

historical record as heathen, pagan and therefore, disgusting and unwanted.

Thus ancient history was curtained off first by the Mahabharat war. Later destructive Christian and Muslim hysteria further narrowed the scope of knowledgeable history. That is why we are constrained to reconstruct that history from scant relics of traditional memories handed down from generation to generation and from stray archaeological remains. It is an exercise like that of school children who are required to figure out the missing words in a broken sentence so that it may make some sense. Reconstructing maimed, missing or distorted history calls for similar skill. In fact the class-room exercise of supplying the most plausible missing words in a broken sentence is a practice-lesson for acquiring the requisite skill during adulthood to supply the missing links in gaps of historical evidence to reconstruct the story of the past.

According to some calculations public historical memory at any given moment does not extend to more than 24800 years or so. It is also believed that earthly civilization has undergone colossal destruction by fire or water, famine or war 64000 times. The Ramayanic and Mahabharat civilizations are some of those we know through the two epics written about them and of earlier rulers we know from the Puranas.

Each era has its own ups and downs of scientific advancement and decline. The law of waxing and waning fortunes applies as much to civilizations as to individuals. Therefore, past accounts which talk of aircraft, magic-missiles and contacts with beings from other planets must not be disbelieved. When in our own times we have television and space-craft we must deduce from similar references in ancient writings that in past ages too humanity must have made similar progress.

Since the cosmos consists of innumerable satellites, planets, stars and galaxies separated by great distances there is no reason why humanity could not have established both physical and radio contacts with other planets in different eras. Similarly, there is

no reason why there couldn't be other heavenly bodies with human or super-human civilizations.

Historians may make use of such deductive logic to draw wider conclusions instead of confining themselves merely to some written statements and their interpretations.

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BASIC DEFINITIONS

The two key words used very often in this volume are Vedic (culture) and Divinity alias 'God'. At the outset it may be noted that the proper spelling should be 'Vaidik' and not Vedic. Yet we shall stick to the latter spelling because that has gained currency.

In maintaining that Vedic culture existed throughout the world from time immemorial until the rise of Christianity and Islam what is meant is the culture represented by the Vedas, Upanishads, Smriti literature, the Puranas, Ramayan, Mahabharat, Sanskrit langauge, Yoga, Pranayam, etc. and the festivals and practices associated with them.

Let it not, therefore, be said that only fire worship is favoured by the Vedas, and not idol worship or that Shiv is not a Vedic deity or that Jains, Buddhists, Sikhs and Parsis do not form part of the Vedic tradition, or the Vedas do not belong to the Dravids or that astrology shouldn't be regarded as a part of Vedic culture.

Vedic tradition generally represents reverence for Vedic tenets, (or their substitutes), adoration of the cow, reverence for all life, a largeness of heart which allows a person to adopt any form of worship or remain an atheist, faith in rebirth, belief in the Karma theory, respect for womanhood, identity of thought with word and deed, peaceful, sociable and moral behaviour and an innate faith in an all-pervading divinity. In short, the modern term Hinduism stands for Vedic tradition. Consequently, Hinduism shouldn't be regarded as a collateral of Islam, Buddhism or Christianity. Those

three are individual-centered religious factions while Hinduism alias Vedic culture is the primordial mother-faith of all humanity, uniting them in a common bond of cultural fraternity and in the common language, Sanskrit. Vedic tradition does not demand religious allegiance to any one supreme individual. It does not promise salvation on mere confession, surrender or identification with an individual like Jesus or Mohammed. Vedic tradition lays down that every individual will automatically reap the reward or punishment for his own good or evil thought, word or deed.

The Vedas form the seed. Vedic culture is the luxurient tree that has sprouted from it. Its stem and branches are formed by the Upanishads, the Ramayana, Mahabharat and the Puranas. The whole mighty growth of the Banyan tree is not decipherable in its tiny seed. Therefore, it is wrong on the part of scholars to say that because such and such a deity or concept or word finds no mention in the Vedas it is not a part of the Vedic tradition. That is a mistake which West-oriented Vedic scholars have been committing all along.

The term 'God' or 'Divinity' used in this volume is meant to convey the super-human power which created this universe and sustains it. Readers from devout theists to avowed atheists will be free, in reading this thesis, to regard God as a benign supervisor inclined to confer boons on humble supplicants, or as an inexorable, impersonal, computerized mechanism not amenable to any prayer.

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THEORIES ABOUT THE CREATION

Any history must begin with the creation of the world we live in. But most present-day theories begin with a random mention of a number of civilizations from the Incas to Indus Valley and Scythians to Sumerians. The inter-relation of those civilizations is not knon, their sequence too is unknown. Besides, nothing is known about relics found in places like the Easter Island. Even the Indus Valley civilization came to light comparatively recently. There could be many more such civilizations hidden from our view. Thus there is complete confusion in history beyond 2000 years.

Let us, therefore, begin with the current concept about the creation. Since all contemporary education is run on European lines, because of the current political ascendancy of Europeans, it is their notions about the creation which are considered as the most acceptable, respectable and plausible.

Westerners have two joint theories, one for the material, physical world and the other for life.

For the physical world again there are two theories. One is the steady state theory and the other the big bang theory of creation. Both those theories fail to explain who created and what sustains the steady state or what caused the big bang.

The Big Bang

In the big bang theory it is assumed that a big fire-ball roving the firmament broke into bits to form the uncountable stars and

planets. But what caused the big bang? Another question could be that instead of being blown to bits why did not the fire-ball continue to grow bigger and bigger? Physics is unable to satisfactorily answer such questions.

But let us take a parallel example from human experience to examine the validity of the big bang. In the cauldrons of our glass factories we have similar rolling roving balls of fire. Does that ball by itself break into and cool down to form shapely, utilitarian glassware? It doesn't. In order to be turned into nice, good, useful objects that fire-ball has to be carefully tended, consciously blown into the required shapes and then cooled down and properly stocked for use. It mustn't be forgotten that a blast is a mishap which reduces things to useless, shapeless rubble. For instance, an explosion in an automobile factory will not produce more cars of diverse shapes and capabilities. Contrarily all production even in that single factory will come to a dead halt. We thus find the big bang theory of physics untenable.

Therefore history has to turn to Vedic metaphysics to know how the world was created.

But before turning to metaphysics, let us consider what modern intelligentsia believes about the creation of life.

Darwinism

Just as modern historians place implicit faith in Western physicists and thoughtlessly adopt their explanation about the creation of the physical world, modern histories have equally irrationally adopted the Darwinian theory about the origin and evolution of life.

Thirty years after hugging his theory Darwin himself had begun to doubt its validity as is apparent from his remark "My theology is simple muddle. I cannot look at the universe as the result of blind chance; yet I see no evidence of beneficent design in the details."

Darwin died on April 19, 1882. That is to say Darwin lived

in the Victorian era which was notorious for floating untenable, half-baked dogmas in various spheres and tom-tomming them as the ultimate scientific truths. For example, Europeans of the 18th and 19th centuries weren't quite sure about the earth being spherical and revolving. They asserted very confidently that the world was created in 4004 B.C., that the Aryans were an Indo-European people (whatever that may mean), that life first appeared with mattter turning into proto-plasm and thence led to diverse species with the monkey ultimately leading to the human form, and that some nomads composed the Vedas around 1200 B.C. All those illogical, Victorian concepts still form the stock-in-trade of modern Europeanized historie

Thomas Huxley, a naturalist, friend and champion of Darwin's theory, had once (in June 1860) been very appropriately asked by Samuel Wilberforce, the Bishop of Oxford, "Is it through your father or your mother that you claim descent from an ape?" With his irrevocable faith in Darwin's theory Huxley had probably no alternative but to categorically admit that both his maternal and paternal ancestors were full-blooded monkeys. If all modern scholars were forced to give a written statement of their belief in their simian ancestry, I wonder how many will be ready to sign it. Yet in their public life they continue to pay professional lip-service to that doctrine because it is profitable and respectable to do so. It is a kind of a social scare which makes them ostensible conformists. Readers may judge from this the calibre of so-called intellectuals around the world. They can never be trusted for their conclusions because their academic proclamations are trimmed to the requirements of their social, political, religious, notional, national and professional inhibitions. This should convince readers that there are very very few brave souls who could qualify as real researchers, who are prepared to follow the truth wherever it may lead.

Life and Matter are Distinct

The Darwinian theory is most unscientific. Firstly, it must be remembered that life is life and matter is matter. Life cannot emanate from matter. There are various grades of life as there are various

forms of matter. Both are independent entities. Secondly, if one species had evolved into another we should have seen at least some monkeys in some forests around the world turning into humans even today. Thirdly the argument that a large ape when standing on his hind feet looks like a human being can be dismissed by observing that looks are deceptive. A rope may look like a snake and yet the two are quite different. Fourthly, when one species leads to another the resultant species is impctent, such as the mule and the sweet lemon (among fruits). Fifthly, even in these days of test-tube babies will the semen of a man injected into a she-monkey or that of a male monkey injected into a woman produce a man? Thus when even a 50 per cent human genital stock is unable to produce a human being how can cent per cent simian genital stock produce a cent per cent human being? Moreover had monkeys evolved into humans we should have had monkeys qualifying at least through kindergarten and primary school levels while humans obtain doctoral degrees.

The Library Analogy

Darwin was apparently misled by his imagination. He noticed that there are various grades of life slightly different from each other. From that he concluded that one may have led to the other. But the illogicality of that conclusion may be illustrated by taking a parallel instance. If a person arranges books in a library in the order of their pages, from a single-page book to a 1000-page volume, could he claim that since the pages increase gradually each bigger one evolved from the smaller one? The flaw in that argument will be evident when it can be shown that one can look at it from the other end too and argue that each smaller book evolved or devolved out of the bigger volume. But in either case a further flaw is that if one species led to another why does the former continue to exist?

The Darwinian theory is also unable to explain whether the seed comes first or the tree? and whether the egg comes first or the chicken? and whether a woman evolved from a man or vice versa.?

Moreover, there can't be one law for physical matter and an opposite law for life. In physics, the currently accepted concept talks of a big fire-ball breaking into smaller bits while in the matter of life the bigger species are said to evolve from the smaller or simpler species. One cannot possibly apply two distinct kinds of logic to the evolution of life and matter.

Rebirth

This can be illustrated by another analogy. In physics it is argued that matter is never destroyed but only changes form. The Bhagawadgeeta too very cogently points out that the same law applies to life as well, viz. that life is never destroyed but only changes form, i.e. it changes only the corpus or physical, exterior body, as one changes apparel. Therefore, if one finds the human population swelling, the obvious conclusion is that some other species is dwindling in numbers.

History and Metaphysics

In dealing with the origin of history we thus find ourselves being drawn inevitably into metaphysics. There is yet another bond between history and metaphysics. According to Vedic tradition all life passes through a cycle of 84,00,000 births or species. History deals only with an infinitesimal link in that enormous chain namely with the sojourn of the human species on this earth during the short span between its birth and death, while metaphysics deals with the human soul's journey and sojourn before and after death. When viewed in this context, history becomes a part of metaphysics. It also automatically explains why moral, metaphysical considerations apply to human affairs viz. because one's previous and subsequent births are also governed by the same metaphysical laws.

Both the Darwinian and physicists' theories mentioned above, fail to explain what created this vast cosmos and also what sustains it? But all religions do tell us that a super-conscious power called GOD creates and sustains the cosmos.

Among the metaphysical concepts those of the Christians,

Muslims and a number of other individual-centered faiths don't even qualify for consideration for various reasons. One reason is that they emerged very late in time namely, only within the last two to three thousand years while global human life is admittedly millions of years old.

Validity of Theories of Creation

Any theory about creation to be credible and authentic must fulfil several conditions. One is that it mustn't come from a mortal like a Buddha or Mohamed or St.Paul, John, Luke or Matthew. I am not mentioning Jesus because he is a fictitious person. A Buddha or a Mohamad or any Tom, Dick and Harry is unable to recollect or recount the story of his own birth. The story of everybody's birth has to be told by one's elders namely father, mother, nurse, midwife, doctor etc. Likewise the story of the creation of the cosmos, has to come from a superior anterior source which conducted the 'delivery'. A Bible or a Koran written just over a thousand years ago cannot profess to give an authentic version of the creation of several million years ago.

The second condition is that a single individual like a Jesus or Mohamad can never be a sole agent of divinity. Humanity is too vast and too widespread to be left to the care of a single mortal.

The third condition is that the original version of the creation must be couched not in a modern language like Latin or Arabic but in a language which came with the creation, namely Sanskrit.

Considering all such conditions one has to conclude that the story of the creation as told in Vedic scriptures is the only genuine, authentic, credible, unchallengeable and most scientific version. It alone satisfies all the conditions mentioned above.

The Divine Creator and Sustainer

According to all Vedic literature, Lord Vishnu (reclining on the enormous coils of the eternal time-serpent) created this universe millions of years ago (the exact computation of which is given in all Vedic almanacs), as a going concern, all at one go, with

the first few groups of direct heaven-born, heaven-trained and heaven-educated human beings from sages and kings to drawers of water and hewers of wood in a cosmos stocked with all kinds of life and matter. Thereafter, Lord Vishnu has been sitting apart watching and umpiring the game of procreation and other mundane developments as per the script he has envisaged for the cosmos.

This can no longer be dismissed as a metaphysical fantasy. It has got to be accepted as the most scientific and cogent explanation of the beginning of the universe as recorded in the Sanskrit scriptures, which constitute the Creator's own version, given to the first-generation of heaven-trained sages, at the time of creation, in the Creater's own divine language, Sanskrit. Here, it must be remembered that every synonym of Sanskrit proclaims it to be the language of the Gods. That is not because of anybody's modern-day, political chauvinism but because of ancient memory handed down from generation to generation from the time of the creation. Even the scripts of Sanskrit are likewise known as Devanagari and Brahmi signifying a divine origin.

One can find a parallel in human affairs. Any game, sport, stage-play or a factory can begin only when all equipment and trained workers go into action according to a prepared plan in properly laid-out surroundings. Human life has, therefore, been very appropriately described by Vedic literature as the sport (Leela) or drama conducted by divinity according to a prepared script. Human beings are actors, tools or pawns in that divine dramatic sport. That is why generations of beings are daily born and daily carried away to the dust-bin of oblivion, coming from nowhere and disappearing into some unknown state. Let historians, therefore, take heed that Vedic literature constitutes the source of the history of the creation.

Vedic Version Unassailable

The Vedic version of the creation, alone adequately explains all problems. For instance, the origin of languages. Historians and philologists struggling to find out how and when language began

have propounded wild guesses about man developing his own language beginning from a wild, inarticulate state. But there again at every step they are confronted by other inexplicable problems. For instance, why does every language bear a striking affinity with Sanskrit ?

This Heaven-Created World

Let alone language, a human baby has to be carefully fed, tended and instructed for at least fifteen years to become what we consider to be self-operative. Even our educational practice shows that even to teach low-grade children we employ highly qualified scholars. Therefore the notion that man progressed on his own from a wild state, is untenable. Wild tribes remain wild for milleniums unless they receive help and training from more sophisticated fellow-beings. Therefore the Vedic version that the world began with a first few generations of self-operative, heaven-trained sages, kings and captains of industry, mothers, midwives and gynaecologists, is the only credible, authentic version of the beginning of human history.

Sanskrit the Primordial Language

In the same manner the first God-given language, the language of the Vedas and of all Vedic scriptures (including scientific and educational texts) is exclusively Sanskrit. All Vedic scriptures also repeatedly assert that they are of divine origin. For instance, Ayurvedic (namely Vedic medicinal) treatises candidly, honestly and repeatedly record that the matter contained therein was first handed down by divine personalities. All modern languages are local, regional dialectical corruptions of Sanskrit, emerging out of the ruins of a worldwide, unitary Sanskrit educational and administrative system, which broke down and gradually became extinct after the great Mahabharat war, over 7,000 years ago. It was also then that the splinters of that great worldwide Vedic culture, which had pervaded the world from the beginning of time, came to be designated as Babylonia, Scythia, Sumeria, China, Egypt etc. Problems connected with their history, theology and languages which have hitherto baffled historians, would be very easily resolved if world

scholars realize that all those so-called separate cultures are splinters of the original, unitary, worldwide, Vedic civilization. That civilization is also known as Aryan, Sanatan or Hindu.

Panini's Grammar

This leads us to the conclusion that Panini's grammar of Sanskrit is the grammar of the original, divine lingual heritage of all mankind. Consequently, Panini's grammar must be considered to be the ultimate arbiter of all lingual construction and not of Sanskrit alone.

The great realization that Sanskrit, Vedic heritage belongs to all mankind needs to be taught to all, through the founding of a World Vedic Heritage University

Hinduism a World Culture

The term Hinduism is only a modern synonym of the ancient worldwide, primordial Vedic culture. Therefore Hinduism must not be considered to be a special brand of culture developed by Indians. It is not necessarily that Vedic culture was extended by Indians to the whole world. Contrarily it could be that it is the world Vedic culture which survives primarily in India today.

What is the Soul ?

Since the human soul alias consciousness is the base or the springboard of all history, it would not be out of place to discuss it here.

A surgeon once quipped lightly that though he had performed several surgical operations nowhere could he find the 'Soul'

In purely mundane and material terms, the soul is an infinitesimal gaseous substance locked over the nose in between the eyebrows. It is that sacred spot which is marked with a vermilion, saffron or sandal dot in Vedic practice.

That gaseous substance, which may be compared to the sealed gas unit of a refrigerator, gets expelled down the nose through the last breath when a person dies.

That is the spot where Lord Shiva is said to have his third eye. That is why it is marked in Vedic tradition with a sacred, auspicious dot which also provides a kind of a sacred insulation from mundane aberrations.

The soul occupies the high front seat like that of the driver of a horse-drawn coach while the eyes are actually the windows through which the 'soul' looks on the outside world.

An indication of the 'soul' being there is provided by the fact that when concentrating on something a person knits his brows. Similarly at the time of death the optical axis losing its balance takes a whirl and gets fixed askew.

That particular gaseous substance acts as the active centre linking the brain and the heart. It is the ignition or 'starter' like the one in an automobile.

That spot is activated by electronic impulses received through the ceaseless emission of flares from the Sun, to make a person think and act, as the space-ship landing on the moon is activated by impulses generated by scientists on earth. Thus invisible streams of electronic impulses from the Sun provide the energy lines for all kinds of life acting and reacting on terra firma. Those impulses cease to activate the body when the sealed 'soul' unit leaves the body. That soul is put there by divinity and, therefore is distinct from other inert matter. Each soul being of a special quality its potential and life-span varies.

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THE VEDAS

The Vedas are a big enigma. What are they? How many are they? Who composed or compiled them? When were they composed? What is their theme? Such are the questions which crop up and have been avidly discussed for ages without anybody finding answers which would satisfy everybody. We shall now try to answer them here.

What are the Vedas?

The Vedas are, as their name suggests, a compendium of knowledge, a kind of encyclopaedic, multi-volume book of knowledge.

But there are several vital differences between an ordinary book of knowledge or encyclopaedia and the Vedas.

The Vedas are the ancient-most. They are so ancient that nobody has been able to determine when, where and how the Vedas originated. That is because they are divine. Orthodox tradition holds that the Vedas were taught by divinity to the first generation of sages initiating a tradition of reciting them verbatim from generation to generation.

People are prone to dismiss this as sentimental nonsense. But it must be considered firstly, that the immutable divine origin of the Vedas is a firm tradition. Secondly, all efforts hitherto to trace the original source and the time of composition of the Vedas have totally failed. Thirdly , no two scholars agree on the meaning of the Vedas and their purpose though most agree that the Vedas

have a hoary antiquity and holy purpose.

Let us, therefore, be clear about the fact that the Vedas constitute a divine book of knowledge of every apsect concerning the cosmos as it relates to and affects human life.

How Many are the Vedas?

It is usually said that there are only four Vedas namely, Rigved, Yajurved, Samaved and Atharvaved. The theory floated by Western scholars that these Vedas were composed in that order, one after the other at the interval of a few centuries each, about 3,500 years ago, is completely at variance with orthodox Vedic tradition. According to tradition the four Vedas constitute one composite, integrated whole handed down by divinity for verbatim oral recitation.

But since the Vedas constitute the total book of knowledge they included several additional volumes, appendices, enclosures or auxiliaries such as Dhanurved and Ayurved and many more. But during the course of nearly 2000 million years of human history, several of those ancillary volumes were forgotten and lost. The Dhanurved is also almost totally lost. But the Mahabharat is usually assigned the status of the 5th Veda. And we would like to add Ayurveda to that list as the sixth Veda, and so on.

Who Composed or Compiled the Vedas?

We have no hesitation in saying that divinity itself composed the Vedas because they are so comprehensive, so universally respected, so holy, so ancient and so enigmatic that no human agency could compose them. Also no human agency could enforce their hereditary recitation from generation to generation, all the world over by abstemious and pious families leading a life of almost indigent destitution and total sacrifice of wordly ambitions. That miracle couldn't have been possible unless a compelling obedience is built-in in the Vedas themselves because of their divine origin. Has any publisher of any encyclopaedia been able to create a system for its verbal recitation for ages by innumerable families worldwide without any remuneration, coercion or temptation whatsoever?

When Were the Vedas Composed?

According to tradition the Vedas constitute an eternal book of knowledge which is a permanent part of divinity. It does not have to be composed. It is only to be handed over to humanity for hereditary recitation after every flood.

What is the Theme of the Vedas?

The theme of the Vedas is to explain to man the working of the cosmos and how humanity should ordain its life to fit into the divine cosmic order.

The technology which produces a manufactured product has to exist before the factory starts working. Similarly, the Vedas which explain the technology of the infinite cosmos constitute a pre-existing part of eternal divinity. To try to date them is as futile as the attempt to fix the origin or date of the solar system or the electrons which constitute this universe.

Western Scholars

We may summarize the attempts made by several scholars to fix the age of the Vedas. Maxmueller the doyen of the Western school, whose faulty assumptions are being blindly followed by the West-dominated academic world of today, based all his calculations on the then prevalent blundersome assumption that the world was created in 4004 B.C. His next faulty assumption was that the Vedas are a Brahmnical work and the Brahmans were some arrogant, domineering, exclusive, discriminatory community. Maxmueller's third mistaken notion was that Buddhism was a revolt against Brahmanism. Maxmueller's fourth mistake was to believe that the Buddha lived in the 6th century B.C. In our book titled SOME BLUNDERS OF INDIAN HISTORICAL RESEARCH, we have devoted a special chapter to point out that the Buddha lived in the 19th century B.C. Maxmueller's fifth blunder was to assume that the whole range of Vedic literature was composed by some rustic individuals in the following order one after the other like a busy publishing house, viz. the Rigved, Yajurved, Samaved, Atharvaved,

Brahmanas, Aranyakas and Upanishadas in a continuous long trail from about 1200 B.C. to the 6th century B.C. just in time for the Buddha to be born at the time of the completion of that literary series to revolt against it all, in great disgust.

It is a pity that all the above blundersome assumptions form the bedrock of tuition conducted all over the West-dominated academic system throughout the world.

It is as wrong to describe Vedic culture as Brahmanism as it is to describe the modern educational system as professorism because professors exercise authority. Vedic culture was a four-fold system in which all its four components had their duties, functions and standards of behaviour properly demarcated.

It is also wrong to look upon the Buddha as a rebel. Buddha was a devoted follower of Vedic culture. He abandoned his princely status and took to monkhood only because his mind had lost interest in palace luxuries and not because he detested Vedic culture.

Considering the above series of Maxmueller's faulty assumptions his dating of the Vedas at 1200 B.C. at the earliest deserves to be discarded.

Two other Western scholars Whitney and Winternitz have condemned Maxmueller's loose logic and have castigated other scholars who lauded Maxmueller's surmises as scientific deductions. Dr. Winternitz pointed out that the style of language takes as many as a thousand years to change and not just 200 as assumed by Maxmueller. Consequently, Maxmueller's estimate of the antiquity of the Vedas, amounted to an undervaluation.

Dr. Howe assumes the various stages of Vedic literature, as fancied by Maxmueller, to be right but allows a gap of 500 years (instead of 200 a la Maxmueller) and concludes that the entire range of Vedic literature was composed by some individuals around 2400 and 2000 B.C.

Vedic Language Remains Unchanged

But it needs to be pointed out to scholars of the above line

of thinking that the whole basic idea in reciting the Vedas verbatim, from generation to generation with meticulous emphasis on the intonation of every syllable and a careful mathematical count of the letters involved, is to ensure that the pristine purity of Vedic wording may remain undefiled throughout the ages. Added to this, when one considers that the Rigved, Yajurved, Samved and Atharvaved constitute but one composite work, it is wrong to judge them as having been composed at different periods of time by some individuals. Vedic recitation tradition proves that Vedic wording has remained unchanged and that it continues to retain its purity as it was at the time of the creation.

Trying to determine the age of the Vedas from their language is highly unjustified when it is realized that even in physical science date-estimates of different scientists are at great variance from one another. Thus, for instance, according to various geologists 20,000 to 80,000 years have elapsed since the close of the last glacial epoch. Yet another scientist, Avinash Chandra Das has presented two different estimates in two editions of the same book. In one edition he asserts that the territory of Rajasthan was under the sea 60,000 years ago while in another he says it was only 27,000 years ago. Considering such uncertainties even in physical sciences, a philological dating of the Vedas does not deserve any serious consideration. Moreover, it must be realized that Vedic language being neither mundane nor human, measuring its antiquity by human philological conjectures is highly improper.

Estimate of Vedic Antiquity

Summarizing some representative estimates of the date of the Vedas, a Vedic scholar, the late Balasaheb Hardas of Nagpur pointed out in a public lecture series in the 1950's in Pune that Pundit Patankar of Rajapur believed the Vedas to be 21,000 years ancient on the basis of astronomy.

Another scholar, Mr. Lele put the figure at 40,000 years.

Pundit Sudhakar Dwivedi estimates the Vedas to be 54,000 years ancient.

Pundit Krishnashastri Godbole added another 18,000 years to that figure.

Another scholar, Pundit Dinanath Chulet believed the age of the Vedas to be 1500,000 years.

Yet another scholar, Swami Dayanand Saraswati, founder of the Arya Samaj organization basing his calculation on the Yuga computation of the Vedic almanac, concluded that the Vedas were obtained over 1960 million years ago.

All the spiralling speculations mentioned above seem to confirm the traditional view that the Vedas were conferred on humanity by divinity at the start of the universe. And that was millions and millions of years ago.

Readers who shudder to think in terms of millions of years of antiquity may, perhaps, at the very least, concede that the Vedas are of immeasurable antiquity.

All the representative views mentioned above have generally banked on philological, geological or astronomical data to arrive at the date of the Vedas. But we suggest an altogether different approach. We venture to suggest that the basic purpose of the Vedas provides a good clue.

Purpose of the Vedas

Why at all were the Vedas furnished to humanity? What is their justification?

The justification is that the maker of a complicated mechanism such as an automobile, a radio receiving set or a TV set invariably makes available to the user alias customer a booklet explaining the working of that mechanism. That is our common experience. So even when such comparatively insignificant mechanisms have a booklet explaining their working, does it not stand to reason, that God Almighty, the Maker of this complicated, limitless, timeless cosmos realized His responsibility of furnishing to His 'customers' and 'consumers' (namely human beings), the book of knowledge

(namely the Vedas) explaining this cosmos as forming the background of human activity and as to how humanity should conduct its life during earthly existence? Does not a consumer expect such preliminary and fundamental service and consideration from a responsible master-manufacturer? How would divinity then fail in this primary duty? On the contrary, an overwhelming section of human opinion considers divinity to be omniscient, omnipresent omnipotent, merciful and a very considerate father of all. When such a divinity launches humanity in a cosmos of limitless infinity and immense complexity it stands to reason to expect God as a benign father and also as the sole cosmic-entrepreneur to furnish humanity with an expert and exhaustive guidebook. *That Guide Book or the book of knowledge about the 'mechanism', purpose and mode of use of this cosmos and about the role that humanity has to play in it, is known collectively as the Vedas.*

It is but natural in the above circumstances that the Vedas have to be kept ready for use by humanity from the very first generation. Therefore, we conclude that the Vedas were taught verbatim to the first generation of sages. Consequently, the age of the Vedas is the age of humanity. Let scientists and philosophers apply their own tests to determine when man first set foot on this globe and that will automatically give us the date of the availability of the Vedas to mankind.

And it is precisely on this consideration that claims to divinity of scriptures like the Bible and the Koran (apart from other considerations) totally fail. A guiding spiritual scripture must be ready for the very first human being. Humanity cannot wait for a freak Jesus, Mohamed or Bahaulla to appear at any random date billions of years after human beings started living on this globe. But people usually lack courage to develop such a conviction. Consequently, they abandon logic and in a spirit of political compromise mention the Vedas, the Bible and the Koran in the same breath, which is highly improper.

Why Doubt Divine Origin?

Some readers might shudder to think of the Vedas as having been bestowed by divinity at the start of humanity and exclaim that such a miracle is impossible and inconceivable.

To such we would like to say that when this entire limitless, highly complicated cosmos and human existence in it from birth to death constitute a series of endless miracles, what is wrong with the Vedas being one additional miracle?

Divinity also has at its command various modes of creation for a variety of lives from invisible germs to giant animals. Divinity can also destroy life in one sweep by an epidemic or flash flood, lightning, earthquakes etc. With such an immense power potential, is it not possible for divinity to produce the first stock of adult humans readymade to populate this earth for reproduction thereafter?

Consider how the meeting and mating of men and women creates an illusion of luscious romance though its ingredients are all foul-smelling factors like phlegm, blood, spittle, perspiration, urine and excreta. Is that illusion not a miracle?

Consider how a human life sprouts and is tended, within the womb for over nine months. Is that not a miracle?

Visualize how myriads of lives are constantly dropping on the earth like rain, from nowhere, and being drained away into death and oblivion in an unending, relentless trail. When we have a divine mechanism capable of all such miracles, can it not as well furnish the world with a first generation of human beings well versed in the Vedas?

Vedas not of Hindus or India Alone

The Vedas are a human heritage and not of the Hindus or of India alone. The mere fact that the Vedas belong to all mankind proves that the world's basic faith is Hinduism and that all human beings followed Vedic culture until they were divided first by

Christianity and later by Islam. It is, therefore, necessary for all to cultivate and assimilate more and more knowledge about the Vedas.

अनंता वै वेदा : (Ananta Vai Vedaha) is a traditional saying which signifies that the Vedas are uncountable i.e. limitless. This is quite plausible because the Vedas represent the total body of knowledge concerning the whole universe.

Sage Yajnavalkya is said to have obtained new Vedic hymns through penance when his enraged preceptor stopped coaching Yanjavalkya in the Vedas. Those hymns are said to constitute the Shukla Yajurveda

Several Vedas are said to have been lost. Vedas was formerly a generic name signifying collectively the entire stock of god-given knowledge at the time of creation. The four Vedas that we talk of in modern times seem to be subsequent groupings of only a small part of that vast body of knowledge which has survived and come down to us. Since those four Vedas which the Hindus preserve and recite with meticulous, studied reverence, could be a mixed assortment of bits of divine, surviving knowledge it is natural that no scholar is able to make any head or tail out of Vedic hymns.

The primordial divine syllable om (ॐ) itself represents the entire body of the Vedas. In the Kruta Yuga (the God-made-era) the Vedas were undivided. That single body of knowledge was then known as Varma Hans.

The well known scripture, Shreemad Bhagwatam informs us

एक एव पुरा वेदः । प्रणवः सर्व वाङ्मयः ।
देवो नारायणो नान्यः । एकोऽग्निर्वर्ण एव च ॥

that (at the beginning of creation) there was only a single (undivided) Veda and that OM was the origin of all knowledge (literature, speech, linguistics etc.). All Vedic chants begin with OM. Any mistake in Vedic recitation is supposed to be covered and rectified by the syllable OM, because that is the seed as it were of all speech and knowledge. Since several Latin prayers begin with OM it is clear

that all those Europeans who are Christians today are descendants of Hindus who used to recite the Vedas. That syllable OM is written in bold capitals on the chapel arch inside the so-called St. Paul's cathedral in London.

Coaxing The Vedas

Though there are thousands of individuals and institutions around the world who profess to explain the Vedas to others or to conduct research in Vedic language, thought and content, yet they have all failed to find any relevant theme from beginning to end of any one Veda or of all the Vedas together. Whether the Vedic stanzas are meant to be sung at fire-worship, is also not certain. Everybody seems to be beating around the bush trying to coax some consistent meaning out of the Vedas.

Despite such total, universal failure to make head or tail out of the Vedas, people in general continue to look upon the Vedas with reverential awe. This itself is one proof of the divine origin and power of the Vedas.

Another proof is the adherence of millions of families to Vedic recitation as a profession from time immemorial without practically any material or mundane allurement.

No Human Being can ever Comprehend the Vedas

There are many reasons why no single person will ever be able to gauge or tell about the total purpose, meaning and content of the Vedas. This we have discussed elsewhere. Here we shall mention one aspect namely that the Vedic texts that have come down to us are like the mummified corpse of a long dead world monarch. Just as one is unable to visualize the details of the reign of a long dead Pharaoh by looking at his mummified body, similarly the mere possession of the word-corpus of the Vedas (also of the Avesta) is not likely to lead us very far. The life i.e the meaning of the Vedas has lapsed into oblivion long back. *The Vedas contain such labyrinthine knowledge of all branches mixed up inextricably together that individuals can never comprehend the cosmic dimensions of Vedic knowledge.* In this respect humans are comparable to ants, and the Vedas to sky-scrapers of divine knowledge.

Even so it would be wrong to discontinue Vedic recitation. The Vedas are a precious divine heritage and a sheet-anchor of human life. They are the fountainheads of holy knowledge with which humanity must remain in constant touch by continuing to recite the Vedas and meditate on them. Great minds detached from mundane affairs can with meditative concentration cull from the Vedas immense scientific knowledge and spiritual guidance from time to time.

The Vedic Mystery

Vedic tradition is as ancient as humanity itself. To be exact it is 1,955,885,082 years old (as of 1994 A. D.) as documented by the chain of annual Vedic almanacs meticulously maintained to keep track of the astronomical importance of every moment of every day in diurnal, devout, individual Vedic routine of all people.

Compared with Vedic antiquity Christian and Muslim traditions which are of only about 1372 to 1600 years' duration repectively so far are but mere bubble-like aberrations on the eternal stream of time. Hence what they need to realize is that their ancestry too is Vedic.

The Vedas were handed down for day to day oral recitation by divinity to humanity from the first generation onwards.

Oral recitation was enjoined to maintain the guiding role of the Vedas and the accuracy of their wording and to ensure that they may not remain unread as books in a book shop.

The Vedas contain technological, mathematical and moral guidance for humanity from divinity in their condensed, codified wording, in the very manner in which a thoughtful father provides multilateral guidance to his children setting out on a long, arduous, risky journey by themselves.

Since the Vedas embody a multilateral code there were originally umpteen ways in which the Vedas could be recited to cull the required guidance in any desired branch of knowledge.

Thus the same Vedic wording is capable of yielding a wide variety of meaning pertaining to different branches of knowledge.

Therefore the superficial interpretations derived by modern scholars, engaged in mundane pursuits, often lead to absurd meanings. For instance, when an Ashwamedh Yajnya was performed publicly around January 9 (1994) in Nagpur (India) stanzas 20 and 21 from the Shukla Yajurved compendium were omitted on the insistence of some opponents because they allegedly alluded to a supposed intercourse between the sacrificial horse and the chief queen. There are two absurdities in that superficial interpretation. Firstly, that heterogeneous sexual act is a biological incongruity and impossibility. Secondly, had such been the real import of the wording of the Vedas they wouldn't have commanded respect and dedicated hereditary adherence by thousands of families around the world for generations!

The Vedic wording is so complex a conglomerate of different meanings pertaining to a wide variety of diverse branches of knowledge that all commentators so far have differed from one another.

Three Qualifications

Three qualifications are essential in anyone hoping or attempting to cull some relevant meaning from the Vedas viz. (1) He (or she) must be an expert in Sanskrit because the language of the Vedas is divine Sanskrit. (ii) He must be a recluse free from all mundane attractions and distractions. (iii) He must have attained a high standard of proficiency (say, of the M. A. / M. Sc. level) to be able to cull a few drops of knowledge from the Vedic wording pertaining only to the particular branch of knowledge in which he himself has attained a high level of proficiency.

The rest of the Vedas will remain a closed book even for such

dedicated, devout souls unless they again attain a state of undivided meditative concentration on the Vedic wording pertaining to their specific branch of knowledge.

Vedic Mathematics

A practical instance of the above law is the compendium titled Vedic Mathematics. The Shankaracharya of Jagannath Puri who compiled that book fulfilled all the three qualifications mentioned above viz. he was a higly qualified mathematician, he was a Sanskritist and he was a recluse with nil mundane attachments or aspirations.

Some doubters have questioned the relevance of the title of the book Vedic Mathematics by pointing out that the formulae laid down in the book do not figure anywhere in the Vedas.

There precisely lies the point of our analysis presented above viz. that the Vedas being a condensed, codified, conglomerate of the highest calibre of multilateral, technological and scientific knowledge a devout, other-wordly soul, musing and meditating on the Vedic wording, may pick and choose a word here or a syllable there or a vowel or consonant elsewhere, place them in a certain sequence and produce an uncanny formula. Because the knowledge condensed in the Vedas is as vast and as baffling as the cosmos and the illimitable space that envelops it. The worldly minds who tend to mismatch a horse with a queen in reading the Vedas make an ass of themselves, lacking even horse sense.

A wide variety of institutions and individuals from Harvard to Hiedelberg and Yaska down to Swami Dayanand Saraswati and Yogi Arvind have exercised their minds in interpreting the Vedas and yet what they have produced are mere scratches. Such is the mystery of the Vedas. Their conglomerate wording is a vast divine treasure of knowledge to be kept alive through hereditary recitation so that some gifted souls may through the ages cull some celestial grains of knowledge from them from time to time. That is why the mere recitation of the Vedas imparts a holy aura to the premises and persons connected with the recitation.

Why Were the Vedas Sub-Divided?

Since the Vedas constitute a condensed, codified conglomerate of the highest principles of all branches of knowledge necessary for human existence, bestowed on the first generation of humans at the start of the creation by Divinity, the question arises as to why did Vyas dabble and meddle with them? What authority or necessity made him do that? Surprisingly no scholars hitherto have even raised that question much less answered it.

There are several answers to this. One is that changing times necessitated a sub-division of the composite text.

Human affairs beginning with the Kruta era was like a chriot drawn by four horses. At the end of that era one horse (or horse-power) drops off and in the Treta era only three steeds are left. Likewise the Dwapar era began with only two horses. And now in the Kaliyuga the chariot of human life is being drawn by only one wild, unruly, ematiated steed. It is like any other vehicle giving progressively deteriorating service with advancing age.

Consequently the Vedas too needed to be trimmed with every passing era to suit the lowering physical, intellectual and moral calibre of succeeding generations. The trimming is about a fourth part with every passing era. Moreover the colossal destruction wrought by the Mahabharat war had shattered the worldwide, hereditary Vedic recitation chain.

Significance of Divine Help?

Sage Vyas is mentioned in Vedic tradition to have invoked the help of Lord Ganesh alias Ganapati himself as a steno in dictating the gigantic history known as the Mahabharat.

It could be that Lord Ganesh's help was also sought for Vyas's entire gigantic literary output and not for the Mahabharat alone because it was to be a gigantic history and time was running out. So Vyas badly needed divine secretarial help.

Vyas a Unique Personality

Sage Vyas's birth and life story mark him out as a unique personality, almost a divine being. He figures among the seven great personalities reputed to be physically immortal in Vedic tradition.

It is said that when sage Parashar was crossing a river in a boat he impregnated the boat woman Satyavati alias Matsyagandha because he could foresee that a unique offspring would be born from the union at that auspicious moment. The child born was known as Paaraashar (i. e. son of Parashar).

As per Vedic tradition every recurring Dwapar era gives rise to one Paaraashar alias Vyas.

Vyas having been born in Yamuna dweep (island) he was also known as Dwaipayan. Having been born amidst a bower of berries he is also called Badarayan.

The epithet Vyas stuck to him later when he divided a composite Veda into four parts since 'Vyas' connotes 'divider' (Ref प्राचीन चरित्र कोश by सि. वि. चित्राव, under the title Vyas)

Vyas is credited with a gigantic, super-human literary achievement viz. composing the 18 Puranas; writing out the Mahabharat a gigantic epic which is almost a history of the entire human race, composing a spiritual compendium known as Shreemad Bhagavatam and dividing a composite Veda into four different parts.

Several peculiarities mark out sage Vyas as a unique superhuman personality viz. firstly, the way he was impregnated in a ferry during a river crossing because of the prophetic, propitious thought-wave of the great sage and seer Parashar. Secondly, his gigantic literary achievement of the highest literary, historic, sociological and spiritual standards. Thirdly, his being one among seven physically immortal persons. This may sound incredible to many. But since the whole creation consists of myriad miracles what can prevent divinity from keeping some chosen souls perpetually alive and kicking?

What Does Ganesh Signify?

Writers of great literature often realize that what they happen to write or propagate is dictated by an unseen power and therefore the writer himself sometimes wonders whether he (or she) actually wrote those words. In such cases the individual is only the ostensible instrument of an unseen divine hand.

Besides that the term Ganapati alias Ganesh signifies 'head of a department or of a group (Gana-pati = Gana-esh)''

Since in the great Mahabharat war highly devastating atomic and biological weapons were bilaterally used in the internecine ideological conflict the worldwide Vedic civilization was left battered, shattered and tattered.

All Sanskrit tuition and Vedic recitation came to an abrupt halt. Therefore sage Vyas had to renew contact with the worldwide tattered remnants of the Vedic educational system and seek the help of the heads of various educational and Vedic establishments to restore some sort of an order, cohesion and continuity in the shattered Vedic social, educational and spiritual system. Vyas was therefore a great organizer and co-ordinator of a shattered system. In that gigantic effort he needed the help of Ganapati (alias Ganesh) i. e. (surviving) heads of various establishments who were literary giants in their own right but suddenly bereft of staff support. But for such an eventuality Sage Vyas would have had no authority to dabble with the Vedas which are of divine authorship.

The immortal, superhuman literary-cum-spiritual achievement of Vyas lends credence to his physical immortality too, as a stand-by.

One other reason why the Vedas had to be sub-divided is that the colossal destruction caused by the Mahabharat war brought about worldwide extinction of the Gurukul Sanskrit educational system and of the numerous modes of hereditary Vedic recitation by specializing families. For instance, if the common Vedic condensed code was recited in one way it, say, revealed astronomical truths. If recited in other distinct ways the Vedas probably revealed principles

of nuclear physics, space travel technology, mathematics, cosmic chemistry etc. Thus there used to be in the remote past numerous modes of reciting the Vedas in hereditary tradition by different families. That system having been shattered by the Mahabharat war the various modes got discontinued leaving perhaps only four modes of Vedic recitation in modern times and consequent total loss of advanced technology that was available upto the Kaurav / Pandava era.

Common Belief

The common belief prevalent among modern Vedic scholars is that the currently extant four modes of Vedic recitation and the numerous extinct forms of Vedic recitation were merely to preserve the accuracy of the Vedic wording.

That doesn't sound quite reasonable or believable. If that belief were correct then the present four modes alone wouldn't ensure the accuracy of the Vedic wording when numerous other modes remain unknown.

The Flaw in Modern Vedic Scholarship

In fact there appears to be a fundamental drawback in the Vedic tuition imparted from Harvard (in USA) to Heidelberg (in Germany) to the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute in Pune (India) to Tokyo (in Japan). Their scholars have, probably, never raised and discussed the fundamental question as to why did sage Vyas in the Dwapar era meddle with the Vedic text handed down by divinity at the start of the Kruta era to the 1st generation of humanity? And why does Vyas still command profound respect?

In modern times we have for the first time posed that problem. The elaborate answer we have given above is that Vyas being faced with the appalling prospect of the whole crashed Vedic, Sanskrit educational system disappearing into total extinction did his best in contacting and organizing surviving heads of different Gurukulums and salvaging as many branches of Vedic Sanskrit learning as possible. The result is that only four modes of Vedic recitation out of umpteen

could be salvaged.

The Surrounding Aura

The Vedas have a divine, magical aura enveloping them. Therefore only individuals who have risen above, mundane distractions and dissipation may be able to glean some guidance from Vedic wording. Consequently attempts by suited booted scholars around the world undertaking mercenary research sitting around a table with one eye fixed on the Vedic text while the other keeps roving over considerations of pay, promotions, prerogatives, privileges, jealousies and perquisits can only lead to absurd, childish, incoherent, inconsistent, meaningless abracadabra. That is why even hereditary reciters of the Vedas never even attempt any elucidations of the wording they recite. Their job is just to keep alive and preserve the recitation tradition so that once in a while gifted souls may from time to time detect and isolate some divine principles from it.

Proof of Vedic Divinity

That millions of families throughout the world have down the ages been devoting themselves hereditarily to nothing but Vedic recitation in abstemious, pious, modest isolation sans incentive or dictatorial compulsion is a very eloquent proof of the divine origin of the Vedas.

Another indication is that the Vedas form the basis of that primordial, pious, worldwide culture of which Sanskrit language, the Upanishads, Puranas, the Ramayan, the Mahabharat and all ancient sciences and arts are nostalgic sprouts.

What Are Vedic Times?

Modern scholars often use the term Vedic times in a very nebulous, indeterminate manner. Most feel very safe in clinging to the imperial Maxmuellarian view that the Rigved was composed (by whom?) around 1200 B. C. and the other three Vedas were composed (?) at an average 200 years' interval thereafter.

A few scholars who have felt free, from time to time, to express divergent conclusions have tried to push back the date of the origin of the Vedas to 5000, 10,000, or 20,000 years. These latter groups of scholars don't make it clear whether the four Vedas were composed together at one time as a single entity or as separate compendiums at different times.

But they all seem to be totally wrong not in one but in a number of respects viz. (1) Since the Vedas were necessitated by the human creation on this globe they are as ancient as humanity itself viz. about 2000 million years. (2) Since the Vedas were divided into four compendiums in the Dwapar era by sage Vyas they constituted basically a single undivided text for the earlier two eras. (3) Thirdly, since it is the Vedas which have sprouted the Vedic civilization it is wrong to imagine, that the Vedas constitute the mindless mutterings of some wandering cowherds. (4) As the Vedas have sprouted a very holy, erudite and idealistic civilization attributing some frivolous, superficial meaning to Vedic texts is the height of scholastic thoughtlessness.

The History of Zero

The current belief among scholars about the origin of zero is very hazy. The present notion is that the zero was introduced to Europeans by Arabs who picked it up from India. Nobody knows how, when and why? Everybody just takes that bland statement far granted without any cross-questioning.

Why should Arabs be middlemen? Could not Indians directly coach Europeans if at all? Or could not Europeans reach India? Moreover, whenever one talks of Arabs in modern academics, one always imagines them to have been Muslims from the beginning of time. But as Muslims Arabs had lost all erudition. On being forced to turn Muslim Arabs, Iranians and Turks one after the other plundged into illiteracy and took to murder, massacre and mayhem.

It was in pre-Muslim and pre-Christian times that Vedic culture and Sanskrit language pervaded the whole world since the beginning

of time. That Sanskrit education and Vedic knowledge included every detail from zero to infinity.

But since Europe got converted first it was forced to shun all Vedic education. Thereafter Europeans thirsting for knowledge had to repair to Arab lands just across the Mediterranean where Vedic academics still flourished for about 300 years until lights of Vedic education were blown out there too and West Asia also got steeped into Islamic ignorance and turmoil. So, Christianity and Islam, one after the other, reduced all Vedic learning (in the lands that they swept) to zero to such an extent that they even lost all knowledge of zero itself.

That zero has been part of Vedic calculations from the very beginning of time may be judged from the fact that the meticulous accuracy of Vedic recitation is sought to be maintained by a strict count of the 10 Mandals, 1017 Sooktas, 10580 mantras, 1,53,826 words and 4,32,000 letters (in the Rigved for instance).

The whole Vedic world was used to that meticulous Vedic count in pre-Muslim and pre-Christian times. All that learning (along with the use of zero) was reduced to a zero by Christianity and Islam.

Since Vedic learning including mathematics survived in India in the form of Hinduism (despite Muslim and Christian inroads), the belief spread that non-Indians learned the use of zero from India. That has to be understood in the limited sense that Muslims and Christians learned the use of zero from India only after their conversion had reduced them to illiteracy. In pre-conversion times they were all an integral part of the Vedic world and as up-to-date in Vedic, Sanskrit learning as India. Today India appears to be the original repository of Vedic knowledge only because other lands lost touch with Vedic learning progressively from the time of the Mahabharat war and totally after conversion to Islam or Christianity.

Vedic Sociology

Aiming at ensuring a smooth, bearable existence for all beings, Vedic culture built up a psychologically planned social structure.

Five norms of conduct were enjoined on every member of the

society. These were - (1) Satya (सत्य) i. e. Truth. (2) Ahimsa (अहिंसा) - meaning non-killing, non-harming, non-violence. (3) Asteya (अस्तेय) i. e. non-stealing, non-grabbing, non-misappropriating. (4) Aparigraha (अपरिग्रह) - not claiming ownership or possession of any worldly thing or property. (5) Brahmacharya (ब्रह्मचर्य) - This last requirement is usually translated as celibacy. Actually it implies observance of strict rules of conduct in consonance with laws of nature as per one's age, status and social standing. These qualities eliminated any motivation for social or individual strife.

To inculcate the above qualities in every member of society a joint family system was put in vogue where it was a corporate life with the raw younsters learning and taking over smoothly from experienced elders. Such a family ensured division of labour, expertise of the elders, loving nurture of the very young and very old, guarantee of economic sustenance for every individual, good engaging company for all and an engrossing mass attention and attendance because of a large number of comings and goings of a plethora of friends, relations and acquaintances on frequent functions, celebration and get-togethers.

Segregation of the Sexes

Vedic culture envisages two distinct spheres for males and females not out of any considerations of inferiority or superiority but with a view to ensure the fruition of their lives and careers in the context of their physiology and psychology.

A woman has her menses, conceptions and deliveries. Being delicate and attractive all and sundry cast covetuous glances at her . She also likes to adorn her body. Taking all such peculiarities of the female into consideration Vedic culture has ensured for the woman the role of the empress of the home. When a bride is ushered into her marital home, the Vedic priest actually utters the words '' *Samrajni Bhava* (सम्राज्ञी भवऽ) Be ye the queen of this (new) household.'' She is of course the apprentice queen under the other elder 'queens' who have preceded her in the household.

In such a family - setting the woman is safe from the gazes of strangers. She has social occasions and company galore to show herself up in all her finery and charm and generally spends her time in congenial company.

Contrarily the mere male with his rough, tough and blunt nature and no great physiological handicaps is supposed to cope with the burly burly of the outside world.

Western Aberration

In the aftermath of the Mahabharat war and later imposition of Christianity, Westerners gradually drifted away from the Vedic norms of conduct and adopted the drink and dance and mixing of the sexes type of life from the school stage onwards with the result that in the U.S.A. teen-age free sex and wife-swapping is getting common and is resulting in enormous crime, spread of incurable diseases such as AIDS and misery to vulnerable sections such as old men, children and women. Considering all this Vedic arranged marriages have proved the best bulwark against breakup of homes and families.

A Laudable Exmaple

A British group of educationists has taken a laudable step in re-ushering Vedic values in Western society. It has set up four Schools : 1) St. James Independent School for junior boys. (2) St. James Independent School for senior boys and two similar schools for girls, ruling out co-education (because the needs, reflexes, requirements and emotive responses of male and female minds are different) and made Sanskrit a compulsory subject of study for every standard from primary to the A level. That pattern needs to be adopted all over the Christian and Muslim countries to resurrect their Vedic heritage.

Vedic Display Signs

A system of visual self-certification is a part of Vedic culture. For instance, every household has to be swept and cleaned early every morning and as an assurance to everybody concerned a prominent, artistic, geometric pattern is drawn just outside the

entrance in white stone powder (with at times some colour added). It is known as Rangavali alias colour-design. Absence of such a design in front of any house usually indicated some calamity such as mourning, disease or destitution. The design at the entrance signified that the household had been swept and cleaned for the daily routine of the inmates and welcome visits by others.

Every individual too wore a mark on his or her forehead between the eyebrows after bath to assure others of his or her physical cleanliness to begin the day's chores.

An adolescent girl looking forward to marriage and married women, both wear a red vermilion dot on their foreheads. To distinguish between them a married woman further wears a Mangala (auspicious) sootra (necklace) of tiny black-beads and gold around her neck and silver rings on her toes. That made the distinction clear between the married and yet to be married.

A woman wearing a plethora of green bangles and/or a green saree or blouse was a mark of pregnancy so that she should be accorded the conveniences and considerations that her physical status demanded.

A widow was known by the absence of the vermilion dot on her forehead so that her well-wishers may help her find a new spouse.

Vedic culture has far-sightedly provided such visual signs for smooth functioning so that everyone may receive community help and co-operation that his or her situation demands without anyone having to ask any question or solicit explicit help. Such provisions insured Vedic society functioning like a well-oiled machine sans fuss and sans noise.

The Mangala Sootra (literally 'The holy thread') also implicitly proclaimed that the wearer being a married woman the sanctity of her moral tie up with her-husband was not to be violated by any amorous advancas or aberrations.

Vedic Chanting Taboos

Vedic chantings is a lifetime profession involving meticulous expertise and wholetime hereditary dedication. Women transplanted into other families by marriage, engaging in household chores (such as sweeping, grinding, cooking, nurture of babies and preparing for and participating in social functions) and with physiological digressions such as menses, conceptions, deliveries and child-care cannot be envisaged to ever qualify for wholetime professional Vedic recitation.

Moreover Vedic chanting was not child's play like picking up a book and reading out a nursery rhyme. Vedic chantings took different forms to yield profound secrets pertaining to different sciences. Such expertise in recitation needed full-time dedication, say for 12 to 20 years at a stretch, at the preceptor's hermitage where only males were sent from the age of 5 or 8. Since such an upbringing was impossible for a woman womanhood was considered a disqualification. It is wrong to read into that taboo any discrimination against a woman's person or her intelligence.

The Vedic Computer Technique.

A report appearing in the Times of India (a daily published from Bombay) dated March 22, 1993 read :

"Computer scientists are now beginning to realise that all their endeavour over the last three decades into making natural language accessible to computer programming was already done about 2,600 years ago. Though much removed in time, space and culture, a 7th century B. C. Sanskrit grammarian seems to have provided all the answers to today's computer problems.

"The grammarian -Panini - is now being called the first software man, without the hardware. And the focus is on the roughly 4,000 rules of Sanskrit grammar that he evolved; rules that are so scientific and logical in manner that they closely resemble structures used by computer scientists throughout the world.

"Sadly, the link between artificial intelligence and Panini's grammar was discovered in far away America, by a NASA scientist

called Mr. Rick Briggs. Scientists, over the years, had been bogged down by ambiguities in natural languages and efforts into computer processing were proving too difficult — until Mr. Briggs discovered Sanskrit. Since then, millions of dollars have been pumped into research with many Western countries doing extensive work on the subject.

"How does Panini's grammar work ? Grammar is basically an abstraction of the language. As a rule, grammar is usually written after a language has developed. Sanskrit has other forms of grammar, but Panini's is the only one which with only 4,000 rules successfully covers almost the entire range. And each word under the Panini grammar can be tracked back to its root, quite akin in form and essence to computer languages like say Cobol or Fortran."

Our Comment - By tradition Sanskrit is a God-made language. The Vedas which constitute a codified book of knowledge are of divine origin. Their language Sanskrit is therefore not of human origin. That is why it is of mathematical precision described above. Panini is the master tabulator of Sanskrit but not the originator of the language.

Even computer hardware must have existed in Vedic culture as may be deduced from Bhrugu Samhita and Nadi Granthas which record the life predictions of billions of born and unborn individuals, deduced from their horoscopes worked out from the permutations and combinations of the 30 degrees of each of the 12 houses, the 12 zodiacal signs, the nine planets and 24 hours constituting the diurnal cycle.

The other possibility could be that those horoscopes and their life-forecasts were spelled out by gifted Trikaldarshi (त्रिकालदर्शी) minds which could see the past, present and future.

Astronomical Code in Rigved

Dr. Subhash Kak a computer scientist at the Louisiana State University (U. S. A.) has discovered an ancient astronomical code embedded in the Rigved. The code reveals the earth-sun and earth-moon distances and the solar year to be of 364.24675 days

a remarkably accurate value.

The astronomical code reinforces our conclusion that the Vedas, far from being rustic mutterings as has been assumed by scholars tutored in the Western view, are a conglomerate of codified cosmic scientific formulae.

An analysis of the code in Rigved reveals that the sun is 108 sun-diameters away from the earth while the moon is 108 moon diameters away from the earth.

Modern astronomical studies believe the actual figures to be 107.6 for the sun and 110.6 for the moon. May be modern calculations are imperfect.

Incidentally, the above cosmic, mathematical detail explains the preponderance of figures 8, 108, 1008 etc. in Vedic social and spiritual practices.

Muslim Call For Prayers in Saam Vedic Tune.

It is not generally known that the Muslim Arabic call for prayer given from mosque-tops five times-a-day is intonated in Saam-Vedic notes and tune. This is one more proof that Arabs followed Vedic culture in pre-Islamic times. The call says "I aver that Allah alone and none else is worthy of worship. I aver that Mohamad is Allah's messenger. Gather all for Namaz, for your good because Allah alone is worthy of worship. Allah is great."

The Allah referred to above is the Sanskrit name of the Mother Goddess. Since she was the family deity of the Kureshi family (to which Mohamad belonged) that name came to represent divinity in Islam.

Sura And Ayat

Chapters of the Koran are known as 'Sura'. In Sanskrit (सुर) 'Sura' signifies divinity. The Arabic word 'Ayat' signifies a particular stanza or assertion of the koran. That too is a Sanskrit term meaning 'emanating from.' Therefore the two terms together mean 'Quotes' emanating from divinity.

♦♦

VALIDITY OF BASIC CONCEPTS CONCERNING THE VEDAS

In Vedic theology God is referred to by various names according to His diverse distinguishing traits. He is termed Eeshus which signifies that he is the supreme lord, a kind of owner, proprietor, founder, progenitor and sustainer.

He is also known as Bhagawan i.e. the lustrous one. We know from mundane experience that all animation needs heat. Our heart-beats, our breathing, our digestive system, our industrial machinery, all need heat alias energy of one kind or the other. Naturally therefore, one who creates, sustains and runs this entire limitless cosmos, must be a lustrous body. He must be the very embodiment or source of cosmic light or energy. The term Bhagawan means just that.

The Cosmic Time Table

The cosmic-schedule of God alias Bhagawan is set out in the Bhagawat Puran which is a part of Vedic literature. According to that Puran, Brahma himself appears first at the start of the periodic creation of the cosmos. When the cosmos is dissolved in a deluge that is Brahma's night and he goes to rest or lies dormant. Thus Brahma's figurative working day is the span during which one creation lasts. That may be compared, in mundane terms, to the head of an industrial establishment. When He appears on the scene the entire cosmic 'industry' throbs and hums with activity. When Brahma

goes to sleep the cosmos is dissolved.

The periods of cosmic creation and dissolution have been known and accurately worked out in Vedic tradition because that is the primordial, parental, divine heritage of all mankind. In that respect Christianity and Islam stand nowhere. This is one of the numerous indications of the fact that Hinduism alias Vedism is a class apart. It should never be compared or classed with Christianity, Islam and such other creeds based on mortal individuals. Vedic Sanskrit tradition is divine and peerless.

Kalpas and Yugas

The 'day' alias KALPA i.e. working period of every creation lasts 4,320 million human years. That is followed by an equally long period (namely another 4,320 million human years) of rest, oblivion or dissolution, which is called the 'night' of Brahma.

Every KALPA is made up of 1,000 cycles of four YUGAS. Each cycle of the four YUGAS comprises 4,320,000 human years. The Yugas in their proper order are: Kruta, Treta, Dwapar and Kali lasting in that order for 1,728,000 human years, 1,296,000 years, 864,000 and 432,000 years respectively. A KALPA therefore consists of 4000 Yugas.

Every KALPA consists of 14 MANVANTARAS i.e. periods comprising 71 cycles of four Maha Yugas. Each Manvantara is headed by a Manu, a sort of a chief executive alias administrator. The Maru Smriti that has come down to us is reminiscent of a divine code meant to regulate human behaviour as laid out by the first Manu. Therefore, the highest sanctity, awe and reverence attach to it. At present the world is passing through the 7th Manvantara of the present Kalpa.

The Starting Era

The Kruta Yuga is an age of perfect virtue. In it all human beings stick to a strict code of truth, honesty, integrity and dutifulness unmindful of the consequences. Thereafter, in each successive Yuga honesty, integrity, adherence to truth and

dutifulness diminish by a quarter each time. Kali Yuga is the worst. It is one such Kali Yuga through which we are passing at present. In this period human beings become vain, garrulous, opportunists, aggrandizers, faithless, oppressive, cruel and lazy exploiters. The truth of this ancient Vedic forecast should be apparent to anybody who is able to cast a detached look at the present-day world.

The first Yuga is known as Kruta because it is readymade by divinity. The world is created all at one go stocked with all kinds of life and matter in different stages of development. Thus seeds and trees, eggs and chicken, youngmen and women, children and the old, and everybody from heaven-trained learned pundits and sages to the aborigine is created by divinity to serve as a rolling stock for the game of procreation to roll on through various Yugas, Manvantaras and Kalpas.

The divine incarnations are interspersed through these ages, to destroy the wicked and protect the virtuous from time to time, when things seem to go out of hand, just as an umpire intervenes when necessary in a boxing bout, a wrestling contest or a soccer match.

The English term 'age' is itself a corrupt form of the Vedic term Yug.

The cosmos in which our lives are moulded is thus a kind of a computerized mechanism which works to an atomic time-clock schedule meticulously monitored by divinity.

Vedas-The word of God

By tradition the Vedas are known as the very breath alias words of God. And this they actually are. Because just as a dramatist and stage-producer lay down the rules for stage actors in a play, just as organizers of sports competitions and field games prescribe the rules of those contests, or just as manufacturers of television sets, radio receivers and automobiles issue a booklet explaining how that particular machine works and how it should be handled, similarly when putting humanity on this globe, divinity supplied

to man basic knowledge about the composition of this cosmos, its working and about the manner in which God desires humanity to play the game of life. That basic knowledge of the laws which govern this complicated, computerized cosmos is condensed in Vedic codes.

The Master Code

The Vedas thus constitute the master-key to all knowledge concerning this cosmos and all that is in it. Obviously Vedic words and stanzas are like precious seeds or codes. Seeds need special nurture and expert knowledge to yield their full potential as trees or plants. If they are thrown on rock, or sown out of season, or are not watered, or the required fertilizer is not supplied or if they are planted in small, shallow pots or in glass cases the seeds may not sprout or would grow only into stunted plants. Thus we know how, huge banyan and mango trees have their pigmy varieties too grown in small trays, as drawing-room novelties.

Incomprehensibility of the Vedas

The Vedas can, therefore, be understood only by certain sages through meditative concentration. What is happening at present is that around the world in several countries, colleges and academies scholars are trying to analyse and understand the Vedas through mercenary staff who have obtained a master's degree or a doctorate in Sanskrit. This is like asking a person who has obtained his Master's degree in Shakespearian literature to interpret a text of nuclear physics written in English. Mere competence in Sanskrit is not enough to comprehend the meaning of the Vedas because the language of the Vedas constitutes a divine code, like symbols, sign and language used in a document pertaining to some hidden treasure. Only one who knows how to interpret and inter-relate them will be able to find his way to the treasure. Thereafter he must also have the finance, labour and equipment to dig out the treasure.

The Botanical Parallel

A parallel may be found in botany. One may have an assortment

of seeds to grow a variety of plants from a cactus to a lotus and from a bouganville to a banyan but that potenial could remain unutilized unless one has enough planting space, fertile soil, manure, water, labour and finance.

Elevated Minds Needed

The same is the case with the Vedas. Mere possession of the Vedas in college libraries is of no use. Where are the self-less, sage-like, gifted minds who would be able to understand and interpret the Vedas? College professors or academy - experts in Sanskrit lack the necessary acumen because they are people involved with mundane matters. To be able to comprehend the Vedas one must have an elevated mind which is poised far above mundane affairs.

Intermixed Strands of Knowledge

There is also another catch. The Vedas contain the strands of all the 16 branches of wordly knowledge and their 64 technologies and arts. Thus a nuclear physicist could cull from the Vedas all the keys to his own branch of knowledge while a mathematician, astronomer or medical man could each glean from the same Vedic stanzas the highest truths and principles of his own branch of study. Consequently, the Vedas constitute a miraculous master code of all knowledge concerning this universe from physics to metaphysics in a seed-like, condensed, miniscule, consolidated form. Because of this peculiarity it isn't possible for even a master of Sanskrit to understand or comprehend the Vedas. This is why Vedic academies and university chairs in Vedic studies engaged in wild, shallow, superficial scanning of the Vedas have produced diverse ludicrous interpretations without anyone being able to make any sense to himself or to others. Only Swami Dayanand, founder of the Arya Samaj, could make some headway in one direction because his was an ascetic, scholarly, selfless, meditative soul. But the Vedas have a cosmic sweep. Therefore, comprehension and interpretation of the Vedas would need numerous sages like Swami Dayanand, each an expert at least in one branch of science.

Since it is impossible to have so many gifted people in diverse

branches of learning all at one time, the Vedas are bound to remain largely incomprehensible to humanity.

But that is no reason for despair or disillusionment. One doesn't throw away a coded key to a treasure because it is incomprehensible. One preserves and protects that parchment with a sense of awe, amazement and reverence in the hope that some day somebody will come around who will be able to interpret the Vedas each in his own field. And actually there are scholars around the world who are able to cull from the Vedas the highest principles of their own field of study. For instance, there are scholars who deduce astronomical laws from Vedic stanzas. There are others who can interpret the Vedas in terms of physics and chemistry. It is, therefore, no exaggeration to say that all knowledge from agriculture to astrophysics and music to medicine has been made available to man by divinity, in the form of the Vedas, at the start of the creation.

Hereditary Recitation

In order that such a magical master-code of all knowledge shouldn't get garbled, tangled or messed up with foreign matter Brahma himself trained the first (or first few) generation (s) of seven sages such as Kashyap, Agastya, Galav and Etri in meticulous oral recitation of the Vedas backwards and forwards, keeping an exact mathematical count of the letters involved and intoned.

Whether, at that time, humanity lived all in one place or was spread out over the various continents as we know them today, we don't know. But that detail is not vital for our study. Whether living at one place or spread out as communities of differing hues over the continents divinity stocked them with all kinds of people from erudite reciters of the Vedas to simple village folk and forest tribes.

It is only because of such divine dispensation that there are, today, thousands of families around the world who continue to maintain the tradition of Vedic recitation from generation to generation eking out an unassuming, unpretentious, contented,

dutiful and ascetic living. Is such a tradition possible or thinkable without a divine direction, in these days of fierce competition for self-aggrandizement ?

The Miracle Factor

The only argument against accepting the Vedas and their recitation tradition to be of divine origin, would be that such a miracle is not possible, that divinity cannot produce grown up pundits all at once, that every human being individually and humanity as such collectively have to evolve from the cave man wild state.

To this our reply would be that divinity founding the world as a going concern all at one go with full-grown human beings well trained in Vedic recitation and all other trades and learning, is the only logical way to start a world. The big bang theory of the physicists or the evolution theory of Darwin which presumes that life sprouted from matter and thence evolved progressively into a number of species are not flawless concepts. Moreover, even a big bang and evolution are divine miracles.

If we look around we shall find miracles happening everywhere all around us at every step. How do millions of individuals of diverse means and potentialities continue to be born in an unending cycle from nowhere ? How do they continue to vanish into death and total oblivion ? Why are some talented and others dullards ? Why is one born as a woman and another as man ? Why is one affluent while the other condemned to penury ? Why does a doctor-poet who denounces the hair as the dirtiest thing which needs to be shaved off on an operation table, go into raptures in his poems, over tresses of hair lending to physical beauty ?

Considering all such anomalies, contradictions and mysteries one has to admit that human existence itself is a total mystery. If as part of such a magical world the Vedas too are a mystery-pool of divine knowledge, the recitation of which was taught by divinity itself to seven specially trained sages, what is wrong ? Divinity is omnipotent. If it can create and sustain a myriad suns in a state of fierce conflagration cannot divinity produce accomplished

first generation men and women? And it should be remembered that select teams from the first generation were trained not only in the Vedas but in all mundane arts, sciences and professional skills. All texts of Vedic literature such as those of music, architecture and medicine assert their divine origin. Why disbelieve them? The other solution, that man developed himself from a wild state does not seem feasible from our experience and observation.

The Vedas are incomprehensible to ordinary mortals because they comprise knowledge concerning the entire illimitable cosmos and not of the earth alone. Secondly, they are unfathomable because they are embodied in a phraseology which is nearly 2000 million years ancient. Our own mother-tongue is hard to understand when couched in a phraseology which is even 500 to 600 years old. The common phrases of our own day, such as 'iron curtain' and 'cold war' would be unintelligible a thousand years hence when no trace is left of the current America-Russia hostility. Thirdly, Vedic language is incomprehensible because it is like seeds harbouring a great unseen, unknown potential.

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THE UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED VEDIC THEOLOGY

In the 20th century of the Christian era Hinduism alias Vedic culture is misunderstood to be one among many similar competing faiths like Buddhism, Christianity and Islam.

Hinduism alias Vedic culture is a world apart. It is the primary faith of all mankind which has existed and governed human social relations and spiritual development from the beginning of time until the rise of Christianity. In other words, the ancestors of all those who claim to be Buddhists, Christians, Muslims or Judaists today were adherents of Vedic culture. When due to the colossal destruction of the Mahabharat war a unitary world administrative and educational system broke down, groups of people became socially and culturally isolated and divided. Later, coercive faiths like Christianity and Islam intensified that estrangement by forcing people into warring factions parading as religions. Hinduism alias Vedic culture is no religion. It is a code of conduct for all humans from morning till evening from birth to death. It is a regimen, a discipline of life. It enforces clean, moral conduct and not allegiance to a Jesus or Mahomad.

That the ancestors of all those who today profess to be Judaists, Buddhists, Christians or Muslims were Vedists earlier can be proved with immense evidence of diverse kinds. Here we shall elucidate how their theology remains entirely Vedic even though they have separated from and have forgotten their Vedic moorings.

According to Vedic theology Iesus (Lord Vishnu) reclining on

the enormous coils of the eternal time-serpent, gave birth to Brahma, the creator, who in turn created the cosmos and taught its basic knowledge (the Vedas) to a newly created generation of sages. Eversince, the Vedic recitation tradition has been meticulously preserved through heredity by priestly families all over the world. Similarly Iesus (Lord Vishnu) deputed the first few generations of Kshatriya rulers to administer the world. Every ruler, therefore, deputized for Lord Vishnu. Iesus alias Lord Vishnu also incarnates from time to time to regulate affairs of the human and animal world when He sees the need.

We shall now see how the Vedic tradition of reincarnation and terminology of Iesus and Brahma continues to be used in all so-called latter-day religions. The Vedic tradition of reincarnation is available for everybody to read in the Bhagawadgeeta wherein Lord Krishna has stated that God incarnates Himself from time to time to save the righteous and destory the wicked.

Vedic Prophecy

Judaism is Yeduism and Yedus belonged to Lord Krishna's tribe. Therefore that same Vedic prophecy of the Geeta has been reiterated in the Old Testament of the Jews too.

Jesus Christ is only a corruption of the Vedic term Iesus Chrisn (i.e.Lord Krishna).

And since the Koran of the Muslims adopts the entire hierarchy of 'prophets' mentioned by the Bible from Abraham (i.e. Brahma) down to Jesus Christ (i.e. Iesus Chrisn) it is obvious that Mohamed also accepted the Vedic tradition of divine incarnations beginning with Iesus and Brahma. In the same context the claim of the Koran that Mohamad is the last prophet, is obviously untenable even from the point of view of pure logic. Because the life-cycle in the universe is eternal. And if the life-cycle is endless there cannot be an abrupt end to divine incarnations alone. Even on this single consideration the divine inspiration claimed for the Koran by Mohamad and Muslims in general turns out to be unsustainable.

The term 'Satan' (or 'Shaitan' as Muslims call him) is Sanskrit (सत्-न) 'Sat-na' i.e. 'not the real, truthful or genuine one'

The word 'prophet' itself is a Sanskrit synonym of the word *AVATAR*. The word Avatar signifies 'descent' (from the high heavens). The correct Sanskrit synonym is Pr-pata (प्र-पत) i.e. 'falling (from the heavens) towards (or 'on to') the earth. It is that Sanskrit word 'pr-pata' which is being pronounced as 'prophet' (as 'Pitar' becomes 'Father') in English. Thus both the Vedic idea of repeated incarnation and Sanskrit synonyms for incarnation can be traced amongst all non-Hindu people too.

According to the Vedic doctrine, Brahma is the progenitor of the human race and it was Brahma who furnished the Vedas to mankind.

The same Brahma is accepted as the progenitor of all human beings by the Jews, the Christians and also the Muslims. This is not generally realized. But the Abraham of the Jews and of the so-called Christians is no other than the Brahma of the Vedas. That Abraham is only a mal-pronunciation of the name Brahma will be clear when it is realized that correspondingly in India in English words 'school' and 'station' are pronounced as 'eschool' and 'estation' by millions of people.

Just as the Christians and the Jews have distorted the name Brahma to Abraham the Muslims have changed it to Ibrahim.

Brahma himself is created and sustained by Iesus (i.e. Lord Vishnu). This too is obviously acceptable to all non-Hindus since Christians call God as Jesus, which is but a corruption of the Vedic term Iesus. The Jews too have that same word Iesus. This will be realized by taking a close look at the Jewish name ISSAC. There if the last letter 'C' is made to retain its alphabetical pronunciation 'see' then the name Issac could be seen to be Iesus. But instead the modern world wrongly pronounces the word as 'EYEZAK'. The Muslims give that same spelling an Arabic twist and pronounce it as Ishac alias Ishaq, though it is the original Vedic Iesus.

Look at another detail. All people in the world, who appear to belong to different faiths today, such as the Jews, Christians and Muslims, believe in the deluge. That is because their ancestors all followed Vedic culture. That culture is the ancientmost. In Vedic tradition alone we have a mathematical statement and the most ancient elaborate account of what transpired during the flood marking the end of every KALPA. Naturally, therefore, when followers of other modern-day religions too talk of the flood, it is obvious that they have inherited the flood story from their Vedic ancestors.

Those flood stories having been repeated in scriptures like the Bible and the Koran they betray their Vedic affiliation.

Besides, even the name of the leading man who survives the flood is unmistakably identical among all. Vedic tradition calls him Manu while the Christians call him Noha and Muslims spell the name as Nuh, which is obviously the last syllable of the name Manu.

Adam and Eve

The Adam and Eve story of the Bible is clearly coined on the Vedic tradition since, in the Varaha Avatar (Boar incarnation) legend Swayambhuwa Manu and his consort Shatarupa, who come into being are advised by Brahma, the Creator "Beget many children and rule over the earth, for you shall be the ruler of men." This is exactly the advice repeated in the Bible. The Koran in turn proclaims its allegiance to the Biblical tradition.

The trinity of the Christians has been devised as a substitute for the Brahma-Vishnu-Mahesh of the earlier worldwide Vedic theology.

Mother Mary of the Christians is a perpetuation of Goddess Mari-amma of Vedic culture where 'amma' signifies the 'mother'

The Christian term Mater Dei is the Vedic term Matri Devi i.e Mother-Goddess.

The temple of Vista in Rome was the temple of Vishnu.

The name Hanuman is common among Europeans, being spelled as Hahnemann in Germany and as Heinemann elsewhere.

At times one comes across individuals who, when told of such common traditions, inadvertantly wonder whether it couldn't be argued that the Bible or the Koran may as well be the original source of the common human tradition? To resolve such doubts they need only remind themselves that Christianity, Islam and every other creed was non-existant 1,500 to 2,500 years ago while Vedic tradition spans millions of years. Under such circumstances there shouldn't be any doubt in anybody's mind that it is Vedic tradition which is the parent source of all human culture.

It will thus be seen that the Vedic theology of the creation of the universe continues to form the base of all human tradition whether Hindu or non-Hindu. This should alone suffice to convince anybody and everybody that there is nothing in this world which is non-Vedic and non-Sanskrit. This proves that all people on this earth who today profess allegiance to different faiths are descendants of Vedists alias Hindus. In other words, the Vedas and Sanskrit form the very roots of all human civilization. Consequently all the seemingly different faiths are branches of the Vedic, Hindu tree. They ought not, therefore, to believe themselves to be different and shouldn't function as separate rival entities. Their faiths should continue to seek nourishment from their parent stock namely the Vedas, Lord Brahma and Iesus i.e. Lord Vishnu.

In Chapter 11 of the Book of Genesis the Bible significantly records "And the whole earth was of one language and one speech. Ant it came to pass as they journeyed from the EAST, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one and they have all one language...The Lord scattered them abroad from thence."

That one language and one speech of people coming from the East was obviously Sanskrit spoken by the first born people in the plains surrounding the Sindhu alias Indus. That is why this primordial culture of the world came to be called Shintoism (in

Japan) and heathenism (i.e.Hinduism) in a baptized, Christian Europe.

The Old Testament of the Bible is divided into different parts called Books of Moses. Since 's' and 'h' are interchangeable (as will be apparent from the word 'semisphere' being spelled as hemisphere) we may rewrite the name Moses as Mohes. The term Mohes alias Mahesh in Sanskrit, signifies 'the Great Lord' (Vishnu alias Krishna)

Moses

That Moses is no other than Mahesh i.e. Lord Vishnu alias Lord Krishna will be apparent from the fact that the story about the perilous birth and childhood of Moses is identical with that of Lord Krishna.

And what Vedic scriptures propound is the same as what Moses (as quoted by us above) says in the Old Testament.

This should convince everybody that the Old Testament is nothing but a later abridgement and a local vernacular version of ancient Sanskrit, Vedic scriptures.

It may be noted that Mohamad and the Koran regard themselves as but descendants of the tradition of the Old Testament and the New Testament of the Bible. That is to say Mohamad regards Jesus Christ as his senior in the genealogy of prophets. And Jesus in turn regards Moses and Abraham as his mentors alias progenitors.

Now since the Vedas are the oldest piece of literature and they are in Sanskrit, and they were bestowed on humanity, at the time of the creation, it is apparent that Vedic culture and Sanskrit have been a twin universal heritage. But how many Christians and Muslims would know or care to know and admit that their Bible and the Koran conform to the Vedic tradition and that, therefore, the whole of humanity must revert to and unite in its parent Vedic culture and the divine language Sanskrit?

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VEDIC THEOLOGY IN THE BIBLE AND THE KORAN

Both the Bible and the Koran, though professing to be the scriptures of two different faiths, totally accept Vedic theology and theogony is but natural because Islam is just 1372 years old and Christianity is less than 2000 years ancient. Compared to primordial Vedic cultures Christianity and Islam are but newborn babes. If then they draw heavily on Vedic theology and theogony, should that be any matter for wonder! Do not children imitate the thoughts and sounds of the homes in which they are born! This simple natural rule must be kept in mind by historians. Far from realizing that the Bible and the Koran had no other alternative but to repeat what Vedic tradition laid down (since there was nothing else to go by) modern scholars tend to believe that the Bible and Koran not only differ inter-se but together differ from Vedic Sanskrit scriptures.

Ancient Sanskrit scriptures like the Matsya Puran have recorded the sequence of events which led to the creation of the cosmos. That is the Vedic concept. But that is not a concept like that of Darwin namely the sepculation of a stray mortal. It is the actual account of the birth of the cosmos recorded in the same manner in which elders watching the birth of a baby in the labour-room record or narrate the event. Who are those elders who recorded or narrated the creation of the cosmos for posterity? They could be the Gods themselves or demi-Gods or the first generation of sages or super-sages. That must remain a mystery for ever in

the very manner in which every being, whether man or animal is totally unaware of any aspect of his own birth. He has to totally believe and accept whatever his elders have informed him about his birth. The analogy goes even deeper. A person will believe the details of his birth when all elders unanimously corroborate all particulars about the person's parentage, time of birth, place of birth etc. There is no reason why he should disbelieve it when there is no discordant version. Likewise it will be seen that the Vedic concept of the creation is unanimously accepted by the Bible and the Koran though the modern intelligentsia is generally totally ignorant about it, because the general trend is to assume a certain incompatibility or even hostility between the Vedas, the Bible and the Koran. Let us therefore, discuss this issue.

We shall at the start refer to the Koran which accepts the story of the creation as narrated by the Bible. Let us now recall the Vedic story of creation and see how the Bible endorses it.

The Dawn of Creation

Sanskrit scriptures envisage the omnipotent deity, Lord Vishnu reclining in repose on the coils of a seven-hooded cobra, floating on the primeval waters of the celestial ocean, amidst an absolute stillness.

The coils of the cobra rustle as the Lord i.e. Iesus reclining over it bestirs Himself. That is the symbolic dawn of creation. A breeze begins blowing and like the crowing of a cock after a still night or the military bugle trumpeting the reveille a primeval sacred sound OM...OM...OM reverberated through the firmament.

And then over a lotus shoot from Vishnu's navel arose Brahma. It was Brahma who as the chief executive created the entire complicated cosmos consisting of endless galaxies and men, women, animals, plants and trees on our globe. The first generation of human beings created were of different mental and physical capacities and skills. The first generation of sages were trained by Brahma in the recitation of the Vedas. Thus the drama of worldly affairs and procreation began only after a full-fledged creation was commissioned by divinity in the same manner in which an

entrepreneur starts a factory or a stage-manager produces a play or a sports-master launches a field game. This in short is the Vedic account of the creation.

Biblical Account

Let us now refer to the Bible. Open the first page and read the first three or four sentences of the first chapter of the Book of Genesis. Incidentally the Book of Genesis is almost wholly a Sanskrit term. The word 'genesis' is the Sanskrit term janmas i.e. birth. The word 'book' is the Sanskrit word Pustak with the letters 'st' eliminated and the inital 'p' pronounced as 'b'

Biblical Reference to Floating Vishnu

The opening sentences of the Bible state 'In the beginning God created heaven and earth. And the earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep. *And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. (That spirit of God was Vishnu.)*

Thus the Bible repeats exactly what the ancient Sanskrit scriptures have recorded. And the Koran endorses the entire Biblical tradition about the creation and the lineage of the prophets.

Biblical Reference to OM

Let us now open the Book of John in the New Testament of the Bible and read the very first sentence. It reads "In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God."

That is exactly what Vedic scriptures have said. They have said that at the start of the creation came the word OM. That word was with God and the word itself was God.

Tulsi Plant Worship

The Tulsi (i.e.Basil) plant is held in the highest reverence in Vedic tradition. There is evidence to indicate that Jews, Mahomedans, Christians and everybody else of whatever region revered the Tulsi plant in ancient times.

About Tulsi, Fanny Parks writes "This plant is held in estimation by the Mussulmans as well as the Hindoos. It is recorded of the prophet that he said 'Hassan and Husain are my two sweet basils in the world.'"[1]

The Rosary

The worldwide use of the rosary to count the chantings of the divine name is yet another indication that Christianity and Islam are but chips of the universal Vedic block.

Fanny Parks observes, "The rosary is made use of in Persia and India by Muhammadans as well as Hindoos, and appears with both to answer the same purpose....It is remarkable that Christians, Hindoos and Muhammadans, people so distant and distinct, should use rosaries for the same purpose."[2]

The term rosary is a corrupt form of the Sanskrit word Rudraksha for the wooden beads strung together.

The Kaaba Shivling

Fanny Parks records "The Hindoos insist that the Black Stone in the wall of the Kaaba, of the sacred Temple of Mecca, is no other than a form of Mahadeo, and that it was placed there by Mohammud out of contempt; but the newly-converted pilgrims would not give up the worship of the Black Stone, and sinistrous portents forced the ministers of the new religion to connive at it."[3]

Muslims from all over the world consider it their sacred duty to visit the Shivling in the Kaaba as many times in their lives as possible and in the Hindu tradition they also perambulate around the Shivling not once but seven times. This must rank as a miracle of the Shiva stone that it compels even iconoclast Muslims from across the world to perambulate around it though no Muslim ever perambulates in any other mosque. ♦♦

(1) P.43, Vol 1, Wanderings of a Pilgrim in Search of the Picturesque by Fanny Parks, Oxford University Press, London, 1975.
(2) P. 258, ibid.
(3) P. 403, Ibid.

RELIGIOUS SCRIPTURES

People often talk inadvertantly of various religions and their scriptures and proceed to compare them and end up with the pontifical remark that they are all good, they are all equal and none of them says anything wrong or objectionable. That generalizing argument is an excuse to hang all manner of scriptures from the Vedas to the Buddhist Tripitakas or Shatapitakas, the Christian Bible, the Islamic Koran and many others on a common washing line. But the illogicality, irrationality and absurdity of that generalization needs to be thoroughly exposed. People must learn to be bold enough to question the validity of such statements instead of blindly and meekly swallowing them without examination and questioning.

All Scriptures Not Equal

It ought to be realized that the persons making such generalizations are either pacifists, politicians or mercenary bureaucrats. They are not logicians but opportunists, self-aggrandizers or non-thinkers.

The illogicality of the above generalization can be detected by citing an analogy. If a dietician says that take any eatable whether milk or wheat or rice or vegetable, they all have the same nutritional value, will that be right? Therefore all scriptures can never be of the same calibre.

Secondly, the followers of a scripture fanatically declaring it to be divine doesn't make the scripture divine. There are certain

tests which the scripture must fulfil.

Another point is that the so-called religions which are like one-man leadership factions cannot stand any comparison with Vedic culture. Therefore, the Vedas are a class apart. Other so-called religious scriptures may be compared inter-se because they are denominational, factional books; but the Vedas stand on an altogether different plane. Therefore, it is improper even to mention the Bible and the Koran in the same breath along with the Vedas.

Vedas are Books of Cosmic Knowledge

Moreover the concept, scope and level of the Vedas is quite different from that of other religious scriptures. The Vedas are not religious scriptures. They are a compendium of cosmic knowledge explaining the composition and mechanism of the entire cosmos, and the role that myriad living organisms, born and reborn in an unending cycle play in it.

Fifthly, the serene, holy, scientific language of the Vedas is far different from the language of the Koran, for instance, which is full of hisses, curses and threats of dire revenge

Vedas Came at the Start of the Creation

Also the Vedas came at the beginning of creation while the Bible and the Koran came billions of years later. Therefore, a toddler of yesterday cannot be compared to an ancestral patriarch and paterfamilias of hoary antiquity. Yet another consideration is that in the Koran and the Bible there is a total lack of any logical sequence or argument moving from certain premises to a certain definite conclusion. Their sources also differ. The Vedas were conferred on mankind by Brahma the creator Himself. But the Bible was not even 'delivered' by Jesus. It was compiled several centuries after him. As for the Koran there wasn't any possibility of its coming through Mohamad because according to all authorities Mohamad could neither read nor write. How then could Mohamad note down the passages inspired in his mind while meditating in solitary seclusion inside a dark mountain cave ? Therefore, the Muslim

belief about the transmission of the Koran through Mohamad is unwarranted.

The Scriptural Language

The language is another consideration. The Bible and the Koran being in sectarian languages such as Aramaic and Arabic, they were only meant if at all for the local people who knew that particular language. Contrarily the Vedas are in Sanskrit which was a divine language which all humanity spoke from the time of the creation.

Thus the difference between the Vedas and other scriptures is like the difference between an elephant and an ant.

The Vedas are a gigantic, divine compendium of the cosmic mechanism and unending cycle of births of all beings associated with that mechanism. Contrarily the so-called scriptures of other religions are like petty manifestos of small individuals staking a claim to leadership in a pocket-borough.

From all such considerations it is highly improper for anybody to equate the Vedas with other scriptures. To compare the two may be good pacifism and good politics but not good logic and good academics.

If scriptures such as the Bible and Koran are classed as religious scriptures then the Vedas should be distinguished as scriptures of global human culture. *In this sense Hinduism is not a religion. It is the eternal human culture aimed at chaperoning humanity to the divine home and not to the hut of its mortal prophet.* Therefore readers beware of misleading comparisons on the ground of equality of all religions. In this world one thing is hardly ever equal to another. Even human beings who may seem to have the same physiological components and emotional characteristics, differ widely in their looks and mental and physical capabilities, their attainments and prowess. Therefore, in academic evaluation the pacifist and political talk of the equality of man and equality of religions must be firmly and strictly ruled out. Anything pleasant to the ear is not necessarily admissible to the head. If anybody argues that all

religions are equal and therefore all scriptures are equal, he must be pointed out three faults in his argument viz. firstly, that scriptures made at different times by different persons, in different regions in different circumstances, can never be equal. Secondly, Hinduism is not a religion and that the Vedas are no factional religious scriptures. Therefore, the Vedas, Vedic culture and Hinduism must never be dragged into a discussion about the scriptures made to the order of or in the name of a Jesus or Mohamad.

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RECLINING-VISHNU STATUES

Since according to Vedic tradition Lord Vishnu reclining on the coils of the eternal cobra created the cosmos, it is but natural that statues depicting Lord Vishnu as the creator and sustainer of the universe should have been erected at important locations throughout the world just as every household likes to nostalgically preserve and consecrate a picture of its remotest known ancestor. Conversely the existence of Lord Vishṇu's statues at a number of locations is strong evidence of the universality of Vedic culture from the beginning of the world.

For those who find it difficult to believe in such a ready-made creation we would like to quote the words of a renowned scholar and an ex-Assistant Director General of Archaeology under the British administration in India, Mr.B.C.Chhabra. He writes "I do not want to go deep into the larger question of the theory of evolution which is today at the base of archaeological interpretations but I must need say that the history of Indian civilization begins with knowledge and not with barbarism. The kind of knowledge which has been preserved therein has stood the test of time and is still unsurpassed in certain respects. It believes in an evolution of limited extent only and that for a definite period of time in the history of man's life as also in that of a nation. To base the entire history of mankind, down to the present-day, on the ape-man and the archaeological age of Paleolithic, Neolithic, Bronze and Iron is a travesty of facts. Even in the present age of great sceintific achievements the ape-man

cannot produce the homosapiens, obviously because they are two different species. Recent archaeological excavations by Soviet archaeologists have proved abundantly that these ages have no meaning because different cultural ages are found in different regions and that sometimes they co-existed in the same region which cannot be explained on the basis of the theory of evolution. Most of the objects discovered in these excavations belong to periods of less than 2000 B.C. Then what about the great civilizations of Crete, Egypt and Sumeria whose findings are still a wonder of the world? Indians believe in the cycle theory (Meghdut 2/46) birth, rise, climax, decline and death, which is nature's law."

Those are wise words. They rightly question the very basic assumptions of modern archaeologists and imply that the Vedic concept of creation as a going concern is more cogent. The entire ancient world believed it to be so and therefore statues of the reclining Vishnu used to be erected all over.

The Vishnu Statue in Delhi

In India itself a gigantic statue of the reclining Vishnu lay under the so-called Qutb Tower in Delhi, amidst a lake. The statue was so huge that the Tower appeared to be a slender lotus stem rising from Vishnu's navel. The tower was seven-storied to symbolize the concept of the 7th heaven. At its top was a dome. Seated under the dome on a lotus seat was the four-faced Brahma holding the Vedas. Brahma was shown as presiding over and supervising the creation from his heavenly perch. Around the tower on the ground was the zodiacal ecliptic delineated by temples symbolizing the 27 constellations. The stately gateway leading to that (नक्षत्रालय) Nakshatralaya (i.e. Constellation Enclave) known as (आलय द्वार) Alai Gateway still stands there. The Vishnu statue was erected in Dehli (meaning threshold in Sanskrit) because Indraprastha, the capital of Mahabharat times was the hub of the Vedic world.

The Vishnu Statue in Britain

In the opening part of the introduction to the volume titled-

Above is an artist's impression of the Vedic concept of the creation. Lord Vishnu, reclining on the coils of a multi-headed cobra, represents a still cosmos, a big, dark void with no life, no sound and no movement.

Then it is time for Vishnu to wake up and bestir Himself. The cobra coils rustle, indicating that ages and aeons are now going to unfold a drama of life, as the coils of a film move in a projector to screen the movie.

Lord Vishnu is in labour. Like doctors, nurses and relations, the Gods are gathered around the Supreme Lord, the creator (mother), the sustainer (father) all in one. After the divine 'delivery' Lord Vishnu is seen under the canopy of the seven hoods.

At the top of the umbilical cord from Lord Vishnu's navel emerges the first 'child', the divine creator and executor, Brahma (known to Christians as Abraham and to Muslims as Rahim and Ibrahim) marking the beginning of the cycle of procreation. Brahma in turn creates the rest of the cosmos. But all the time Brahma remains connected with the umbilical chord to Lord Vishnu because it is the latter who is the constant, unfailing, inexhaustible source of light and heat that make the suns and stars shine, that keep life throbbing through plants, animals and men, and keep human industrial establishments and communications functioning.

Such sculptures of Lord Vishnu, either reclining or sitting up, marked important pilgrim centres throughout the ancient world such as in the Isle of Angelsey (U.K), in Rome, in the Kaba (Navel of the World) and in Delhi, representing the father, mother and mainstay of the stirring, living, throbbing creation.

A Complete History of the Druids it is stated "It will be necessary to give an explanation of the pillars, the Circle and Serpent"

On page 9 of the same book it is observed "This Serpent was the symbol of light and wisdom. Its name Seraph, particularly is so expressive."

The term Seraph is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit term Serp (i.e.Serpent) which indicates that the ancientmost language of the British Isles as also of other parts of the world, was Sanskrit.

On page 15 of the same book it is asserted "It may rationally be concluded from the various opinions of the best historians that this island received its first inhabitants from the eastern parts of the world."

Since people from the East (i.e.India) were the earliest inhabitants of Britain, they naturally erected a statue of Lord Vishnu, the progenitor of the world.

The name Isle of Angelsey, in Britain derives from the Sanskrit name of Lord Vishnu as Angulesh i.e. the Lord of the Angul country. The British Isles were designated Angulsthan i.e. a finger-size finger-length country. If the European continent is likened to a palm then the British Isles appear to be an extended finger. Therefore, Sanskrit-speaking explorers named it Angulsthan. It is that same term which later came to be pronounced as Angul and i.e.England.

"The book on Druids mentioned above states on page 36 that 'Many temples of the Druids are said to be yet in part remaining in this Island (i.e.the Isle of Man) and that of Angelsey...many of them were made of extraordinary large stones as at Abiry and Stonehenge."

Page 54 describes "Abiry is founded on the more elevated

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(1) P.1, Preface to *A Complete History of the Druids, Their Origins, Manners, Customs, Powers, Temples, Rites and Superstitions, with an inquiry into their Religion and its coincidence with the Patriarchal* by Lichfield, printer T.G. Lomax, marketed by Longman, Hurst, Rees & Orms, London.

part of a plain...the entire figure of it (the ruins) is a Seraph or winged serpent transmitted through a circle...The outer part of the grand circle is a vast and lofty Vallum, with a very deep ditch on the inside of it near 80 ft. or 45 cubits broad. Its diameter 750 cubits, its circumference 2250 cubits, the inclosed area about 22 acres. Within the ditch was formed a circle of 100 enormous stones set upright, which were generally 15,16 or 17 ft. high, and near as much in breadth...Out of these 100 stones, 44 were still visible when Dr.Stukeley was there in the year 1722 whereof 17 were standing and 27 thrown down or reclining. Ten of remaining had been demolished by Tom Robinson in the year 1700, the vestigia of the rest were still discernible. With this mighty colonnade of 100 such stones in perfection, there must have been a most agreeable walk between them and the ditch. It is scarcely possible for us to form a notion of the grand and beautiful appearance it must then have made." (On pages 56 to 59 is added) "Most of the houses, walls and outhouses of this town are built with the materials of these stones that have been fired and broken...Let us walk out now by the southern entrance of the town passing the Vallum. This is Via Sacra... the summit of the Overtone Hills is the *Hak-pen* (a compound *oriental word signifying the Seprent's head*) which is 4000 cubits from the Vallum of Abiry. *The people have a high notion of it and still call it the Sanctuary...which when in perfection was without question the most glorious temple of the kind which the world has ever heard of.* That it was really a temple sacred to the ever-blessed and undivided Trinity, every circumstance, every consideration tends to persuade us... The name itself of Abiry (ABIRI, Potentates) signifying in the language of its founders The Mighty Ones."

The ditch mentioned above was for the lake since Lord Vishnu is always depicted as reclining on the coils of a cobra amidst a lake. The opening sentences of the chapter of Genesis of the Old Testament of the Bible actually refer to the scene when it says that at the time of creation the spirit of God was floating on water.

The temple was a gigantic and glorious sanctuary of world fame,

and the Vedic trinity of the three Mighty Ones viz Brahma the creator, Vishnu the sustainer and Shiva the destroyer were all there in the form of gigantic statues. The Druids supervised the temple. The above description makes it clear that the Isle of Angelsey was famous in the ancient world for its majestic and massive temple depicting the Vedic Trinity in gigantic stone-statuary as the divine governors of the world.

Reclining Vishnu in the Kaba

The Kaba in Mecca is a huge temple complex built in the hoary past to a Vedic, Tantric design with the pattern of a square set askew over another square to form the ubiquitous Vedic octagonal design.

An ancient Sanskrit scripture known as (हरिहरेश्वर माहात्म्य) Harihareshwar Mahatmya has the following couplet

एकं पदं गयायांतु मकायांतु द्वितीयकम् ।
तृतीयं स्थापितं दिव्यं मुक्त्यै शुक्लस्य सन्निधौ ॥

which mentions Lord Vishnu's holy footprint consecrated at three main centres in the world namely one in Gaya (in India), the other in Mecca and the third near Shukla Teertha i.e. Abiry.

This information when coupled with the information from Muslim sources that there were 360 idols in the temple, indicates that Lord Vishnu was surrounded by an entourage of other deities of which Lord Shiva was one. But the Muslims being iconoclasts they destroyed the idols of other deities while Shiva's emblem, a round cylindrical dark, black-red stone they retained as a central featureless object of reverence.

The Muslim Palestinian name Yasser Arafat is in fact Sri Haripad i.e. the Holy feet of Lord (God) Hari. This name and others commemorate the idol of Vishnu that was enshrined in the centre of the octagonal Kaba shrine.

Reclining Vishnu in Rome

The name Vishnu is pronounced as Vistu even in India and

so it used to be pronounced in Europe. Therefore Vestal Virgins in Rome were girls dedicated to Lord Vishnu.

The entire terminology associated with ancient historic Rome will be found to be Vedic, Sanskrit. The Aventine hill under the monastery of St. Saba derives its name from Avanti, a famous ancient city in India. The monastery of Saba is an ancient Shiva temple. The Paletine hill in Rome is the counterpart of Palitana, a city in the Saurashtra region of India noted for its hill covered with numerous temples.

At Rome the vault of the Old Well-House of the capitol is called the Tullianum. Such well-houses are a common feature of ancient Hindu temples and palaces. They may still be seen in Lucknow, in the Tejo Mahalaya (alias Taj Mahal) temple palace in Agra and in Ashoka's palace (wrongly called Ferozshah Kotla) in Delhi and in several other princely capitals. Such well-houses are known as Baoli-Mahals in Hindu parlance.

"The gates of Roma Quadrata on the Palatine were not bare openings in the line of wall but consisted of a square chamber with two doors, one opening inwards and the other outwards. The temple of Janus was a modification of such a gateway chamber."

That description is taken from page XXIV of the Introduction to the volume titled - **Rome and the Campagna by R.Burn** (Deighton, Bell & co., London, 1871)

Those square gateways are a Hindu feature. They may be seen in almost every historic mansion in India. In fact we would like to suggest a slight amendment. It may probably have escaped the notice of the above-mentioned author Robert Burn (Fellow and Tutor at Trinity College, Cambridge U.K) that the gateways have a subtle octagonal feature about them. In the interior, every corner usually has some kind of a joint which gives it the appearance of a twin, turning the square into an octagon.

Ganesh

Above is the ground-plan of the hoary Kaba (Vishnu) temple constructed on the esoteric, Tantric, octagonal, Vedic pattern, in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

The eight corners occupied the images of the sentinel Vedic deities Indra, Varun, Yama, Agni, Vayu, Kuber, Ishan and Nirut.

The central square represents the present truncated Kaba, the central sanctum housing the image of the Reclining Vishnu 'in labour.' Therefore

this shrine is remembered even in convert, Islamic tradition as the Navel of the World.

Its other name 'Haram' is the Sanskrit term 'Hariyam' i.e. The Shrine of Lord Vishnu alias Hari.

Note the rectangular dent near the upper left corner of the central square. That marks the spot where the cylindrical Shivling stone is vertically partially embedded on the exterior of the southeast corner of the Kaba wall. Therefore perambulation of the Shivling involves circling the entire Kaba building. Even after conversion Muslims feel compelled to observe the seven-fold ancient Vedic perambulation. The Kaba sanctum itself is always kept secretively shut to hide its Vedic interior.

The seven storeyes-high Kaba building is covered perpetually by a ghilaf i. e. a black burqa hiding its Vedic saffron-colour stone surface, lotus designs and what are believed to be Sanskrit inscriptions on the inner side of the sanctum walls. International pressure on the Saudi Government should continue to be exerted by all countries until the Kaba is thrown open to all people as in pre-Muslim times.

Ganesh receives homage at the entrance before one enters the sanctum to worship the main deity.

The western side of the Tiber valley in Rome is bounded by Vatican Hill and the long ridge of the Janiculum.

The Vatican is the Sanskrit name Vatica i.e. a (Vedic) hermitage. The term Janiculum is the Sanskrit term Ganesalayam i.e. a temple of Lord Ganesh.

The Capitoline hill and the Janiculum hill are opposite to each other. In between them flows the Tiber. On both those hills were temples of Vedic deities. On the Capitoline was the temple of Saturn and on the Janiculum was that of Ganesh.

Thus, as in the Kaba (Mecca), in Rome too Lord Vishnu was surrounded by a number of other deities.

"........historians and poets of Imperial Rome give us a description of the solemn ceremony observed on the occasion of marking out the limits of a new settlement ...... a bull and a cow were yoked together, the cow being placed on the inner side, a furrow was made with a plough round the proposed site. This was done on a lucky day to satisfy religious scruples..."[2]

This procedure of choosing an auspicious day with reference to astrology and breaking the ground for a new city with a plough drawn by kine is Vedic practice. As late as the early 17th century Shivaji, a Maratha ruler of India adopted the same procedure when he first arrived in Pune city to look after his fief. He had the land furrowed with a gold-tipped plough.

The Arch of Constantine in Rome is a triple archway with a tall arch in the centre flanked by two smaller arches. This also is a common sight in India.

"The temple of Hercules Victor was pulled down under Sixtus IV. The statue of Hercules in bronze now in the Captiol was found

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(2) P. 31, Rome and the Campagna, by R. Burn.

there." records R Burn.

Hercules is the Sanskrit term Heri-cul-eesh meaning the Lord of the clan of Hari i.e. Vishnu alias Krishna. The term Hercules victor is the Sanskrit term Hari-Vijay (हरि-विजय)

Forum Romanum is the ancientmost part of Rome. Romanum is Ramayanam obviously because that was the central point around which the city of Rama was erected. "The longer side of this piazza measured about 200 yards. ....Round this confined space were grouped the most important buildings of Republican Rome, the temples of the most ancient and venerated gods, the senate house, the Comitium and the Rostra.... The House of the Pontifex Maximus was a little further along the sacred way (Summae Sacra Via) and was called the Regia, the Atrium Regium or the Atrium Vestae. This Regia was the house of the Pontifex... The sacred spears of the God Mars were kept there ....[3]

The above is a very important passage. It pinpoints the sacred Vedic core of the ancient city of Rome. The city itself was named after Rama, an incarnation of Vishnu alias Vishtu. Therefore the highway leading from it to the temple was known as the Regia i.e. royal way (राजमार्ग) i.e. 'Raja Marg' in Sanskrit. It was also known as Vestae from Vishnu and Atrium from sage Atri. Ancient Italy was known as Etruria and its civilization was known as Etruscan civilization, and the sea to its east is known as the Adriatic Sea-all from the Vedic sage Atri who had his Vedic establishment in Rome in remote antiquity. The office of the Pontifex Maximus, that is the chief priest of the Vishnu temple complex in Rome, originates from sage Atri. The Sanskrit term (पंत:महान्) 'Pantah Mahan' has been corrupted to Pontifex Maximus in Latin. His house was naturally a part of this great temple-complex presided over by Lord Vishnu. And as at the Kaba in Mecca, in Rome too Vishnu was surrounded by the other deities such as his incarnations Rama and Krishna and planetary deities such as Saturn and Mars.

(3) P.41 ibid.

The Italian word 'Via' for highway is a truncated form of the Sanskrit term Veethi.

The chief Vedic priest (the Pontifex Maximus) was from the time of Constantine forced to call himself a Christian priest. Maximus is the Sanskrit term (महत्तमस्) Mahattamas i.e. 'the topmost.'

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THE LINGUAL THEOREM

How did human language arise? The most popular guess in that man, living in caves like wild animals, began making some incoherent sounds in imitation of the sounds of birds and animals he saw and his incoherent mumblings and mutterings somehow shaped themselves into the different languages we know of today. That is what most scholars believe and teach these days.

Confused Scholars Keep Mum

But as regards the origin of different languages, there is no unanimity among the scholars. Yet hardly ever are their differences aired in public. They keep quiet, each with his own mental reservations on the topic. They also take care not to tread on each other's toes regarding the origin, antiquity and inter-relation of different languages. Some tend to regard various languages as belonging to a group but not related, some detect a distant relationship while others claim a close relationship between different langauges or only between different groups inter-se. Thus there is nothing but complete chaos in everybody's mind. Yet there is a working understanding among scholars who hold high positions in this field. The understanding is never to press one another too hard or subject a colleague to too close and too embarrassing a cross-examination.

Language Not Spontaneous

Consider one or more children living in a forest or even in a modern house with no one to teach them any language. Will such children develop a language each on their own? For instance

will one of them be inspired to speak Tamil, another, Japanese, a third, French and so on?

Akbar's Experiment

The 16th century Mogul emperor, Akbar had in fact been troubled by the same question. In order to find an answer he indulged in an heartless experiment. He ordered several suckling children to be pulled away from their mothers' breasts and laps to be confined to a house. No adult was permitted to speak anything to the children even while the children were clothed and fed. The result was that the children all grew into dumb adults. Merely because those children were born of the wombs of mothers who spoke Sanskrit or Hindi or Persian, those children, even when free to babble among themselves, did not 'somehow' develop a language. They couldn't speak any language at all. Therefore, the notion that a man educates himself even in such a preliminary thing as learning a language, is mistaken. All knowledge has to be imparted by a superior to an inferior. That is why in educational establishments the endeavour is always to employ highly qualified staff even for very low standards. If man could educate himself why are children sent to school or taught at home?

Divine Origin of all Basic Stock

Even the great discoveries we talk of are made only on the basis of the training or education imparted to the genius by seniors. Even there the discovery is made through some divine, intuitive flashes even as there are gifted brains which work out long-winded and complicated mathematical calculations in a trice like a computer.

Any wheel to start moving needs atleast one initial push. Any factory to start production needs some superior brain to provide the first proto-type and power.

From all this the conclusion is inevitable that all human and animal reproduction starts only after divinity first provides the initial basic stock and the psychic impulse. Similarly the first language was taught by divinity itself to the first generation of sages. That language was Sanskrit. All human activity started from that initial divine stock including the lingual, Sanskrit. That may sound very

fantastic, mystic and magical. But when one comes to think of it, everything in this cosmos has a magical quality about it and is beyond man's comprehension. That the world started with an initial divine stock in every respect is the only answer which adequately meets every situation. Short of that when scholars try to figure out some solution they inevitably stumble against some illogicality or imponderability.

The first era when the world of human affairs began with the initial stock-in-trade provided by God in every respect, is very aptly known as the *Kruta Yug*. i.e. the ready-made era. The physical and mental characteristics of the humans of that era were first-rate. Later with the passage of time down the Yugas, standards started deteriorating as is the case with everything in this world. Old age, decay and disrepair set in.

Through three Yugas (viz Kruta, Treta and Dwapar) the world adhered to a universal, unitary Vedic civilization in which Sanskrit was everybody's language. Even in those ages internecine strife did exist especially between Daityas and Danavas alias Rakshas on one side and the rest. We may find a parallel in the present strife between Russia and U.S.A. and between Iraq and Iran though the rivals in each case profess the same religion. Under the Vedic civilization the clash seems to have been between personalities such as Vashista and Vishwamitra, Vishwamitra and Harishchandra, Rama and Ravan and between Kauravas and Pandavas. Since the culture of the common people continued to be Vedic and the language to be Sanskrit, the tenor of public life continued undisturbed. Warfare was limited strictly to the rival armies and civilians were never harmed. Even the armies fought out their disputes in an open area away from public dwellings.

That Vedic civilization with Sanskrit as a world language continued for millions of years from the inception of human affairs right upto the Mahabharat war. Therefore, in every region in the world from Australia to America and Europe to Africa wherever there were human beings, they all spoke Sanskrit and followed Vedic culture. Consequently, all ancient shrines throughout the world, believed to be mosques, tombs or chruches today are ancient temples

of Vedic deities and monasteries of Vedic saints.

Just over 7000 years ago at the end of the Dwapar Yug was fought the Mahabharat war. The Jewish Passover era, now in its 5,752th year, almost commemorates that war, because the Yedus alias Jedus i.e. Judaists had to leave the Dwarka kingdom soon after the war when nuclear explosions and a massive breakdown of the civil administration made life unsafe for them.

The Mahabharat strife was a world war. The great biological slaughter and nuclear havoc caused by it shattered the unitary, universal Vedic administration. The universal use and study of Sanskrit was also simultaneously breached.

The shattered world was divided into broken units which came to be known as Syria, Assyria, Scythia, Babylonia, Egypt, China etc.

Likewise, with the discontinuance of universal Sanskrit tuition each new fragmented administrative unit mentioned above, continued to make do with its own shattered, tattered Sanskrit lingual fabric. Thus what we know as modern languages are pieces of Sanskrit turned or twisted out of shape by local mannerisms. It is this which makes them all related and yet distinct. This is the ultimate solution to the world lingual theorem.

As against that, current ideas about world languages, viz their origin and inter-relation, are all confused. That lingual confusion has led to other sub-confusions about races such as the 'Aryan race', the Semitic race or races, the Mongolian race, the Negroes etc. These sub-confusions are bedevilled with further sub-confusions. For instance, the so-called Dravidians of India, the Druids of Europe and the forest tribes of the world seem to be unconnected with any of the above groups.

Race and Language are Separate Issues

Let us not mix up race with language. They are separate issues. Yet scholars heretofore have mixed up the two and made confusion worse confounded. Whether divinity at the start populated the continents with black, brown, yellow and white people or created

people of different hues and statures at one central place and then dispersed them over the continents according to their colour, or created all humans initially of one single hue and physical proportions but later as they dispersed to the various continents, they developed distinct racial traits due to the local climate and terrain, seem to be the possible alternatives. Yet there is no reason to tangle the language issue with it. The initial language of all was Sanskrit alone. If this is clearly understood then the illogicality of tying Latin, Greek and Sanskrit together as sister languages and tagging them on to an Aryan race and dubbing them as Aryan languages as distinct from Semitic languages etc. will be apparent.

The Illogical Lingual Acrobatics

The so-called Aryan languages are also called Indo-German, Indo-European or Indo-Aryan. The illogicality of such a classification will be apparent from the fact that when we remove the common factor 'Indo' from them the remainder would amount to saying that Germany=Europe=Arya. That would be a mathematical absurdity. How can Germany (a small region) be coextensive with Europe? And how can Germany and Europe, which are land masses, be equal to 'Aryan' which is at best only a race of people, if at all. But even there, there is a mistake. 'Arya' is no race. It is a way of life. It is the Vedic way of life. Therefore, 'Arya' is a culture and not a race. Yet almost everybody in the modern world, whether teacher or bureaucrat has been tutored to believe in an 'Aryan' race. That notion has been so firmly implanted in the brains of the modern intelligentsia that all their teaching, theorizing and argument turns entirely on the fulcrum of an (imaginary) Aryan race. To uproot that idea from the minds of the contemporary intelligentsia is one of the greatest problems. They use it like common salt to savour all their thinking on any topic. The magnitude of the havoc such wrong tutoring in history can cause was apparent from Hitler's persecution of the Jews in the belief that they were non-Aryans. Since Judaists alias Yedus belong to the clan of Lord Krishna, the divine expounder and upholder of Vedic culture, the Jews are as good Aryans as anybody else.

Let everybody realize therefore, that Arya is no race. Arya

is the name of the divine, universal Vedic culture. Whosoever abides by the rules of that culture from morning till night all his life is an Arya. Whosoever deviates from those rules of good conduct is to that extent an un-Arya.

Since Sanskrit was the initial language of all humanity all over the world, of whatever colour, stature and features, it is wrong to tie up Sanskrit with Germany, Europe or India. Those are specific geographical areas while Sanskrit was spoken everywhere.

Yet another error is to bracket only Latin and Greek with Sanskrit. All other languages of the world are as much local variants of Sanskrit as are Greek and Latin. There is also another twin error involved here namely of equating a multi-million-year-ancient universal language Sanskrit with a few thousand year old regional variations of it namely Latin and Greek. The above elucidation should help readers to understand and analyse the lingual and racial confusion, tangled knot over knot, by contemporary intelligentsia.

Dravids and Languages

The confusion described above attaches also to the people called Dravids in India. Just as it is wrong to deem Aryans a race and talk of some special language or languages as belonging to them, similarly it is wrong to fancy the Dravids to be a race of people and ascribe some special language or group of languages to them. That is why our heading to this paragraph is DRAVIDS AND LANGUAGES which is intended to set right the popular blundersome talk of 'Dravidian Languages' or 'Semitic Languages' or 'Mongolian languages.'

Encyclopaedia Britannica sums up the position by observing that "the origin of language has never failed to provide a subject for speculation," and adds that "nothing definite is known about the origin of the "Dravidian family" of languages namely Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Gondi, Kurukh and Tulu.

That same encyclopaedia however, provides an unwitting but uncanny clue to the right answer by noting that "a number of features of the Dravidian languages appear in the Rigved."

Several problems of history, including the beginning of languages and all knowledge, get satisfactorily solved if it is realized that the Vedas constitute the fundamental body of basic, comprehensive knowledge bestowed by divinity on mankind at the beginning of the creation about 2000 million years ago, in Sanskrit.

That axiom may be intolerable particularly to two categories of objectors viz to atheists and to those who believe that man, at first born in a wild, animal-like state civilized himself in stages over millions of years.

But even atheists have to accept that we all live in a vast mystifying universe where all kinds of life appear and disappear in an unending sequence subject to the interplay of elemental forces. Whatever power created such an infinite and mystifying universe could also create the first few generations of ready-made, enlightened seers and sages, taught and trained to recite the Vedas i.e. the body of comprehensive fundamental knowledge necessary for orderly conduction of human life on earth.

The other objectors i.e. those who believe that man civilized himself unaided, gradually, over millions of years, after being born like any other animal, in a wild state, may just consider that a human child being absolutely helpless at birth, has to be nurtured physically and psychologically with expert care and attention. That is to say no child can grow up to manhood without a mother or her equivalent. In her own turn the mother herself has to be nurtured to wifehood and motherhood before she can look after the child. Tracing that cycle upward and backward one has to admit that the first generation of human beings must have been trained by divinity itself as seers and sages to set the ball of human civilization rolling.

That first generation of sages and seers trained by divinity itself at the start of the Kruta Yug was known as Dravid...where the root 'drs' signifies 'Drashta' i.e. a 'seer' and the latter syllable 'Vid' connotes 'the knower i.e. the sage.

This calls for a rebuttal of the present concept of the beginning of human civilization namely that man has not evolved from a

wild state to an enlightened one but has steadily degenerated from Kruta Yug (the golden age of truth, knowledge and dutiful behaviour) to Kali Yug (the era of strife, dissension and irresponsible behaviour). Therefore, the concept of the Dravids being the first generation of divinity-trained seers and sages of primordial, worldwide Vedic (Arya) culture must be taken to be an historical fact and must not be dismissed as a metaphysical myth.

The language of the Vedas is Sanskrit, so-called because of its divine perfection. Its other synonyms viz. Sura-Bharati, Deva-Bhasha and Geervan-Bhasha-all point to its divine origin.

Vedic Sanskrit is the basic ancestral language of the world, and not of India alone, because of its antiquity and also because the Vedas were bequeathed to all mankind. There is also other comprehensive historical evidence to prove this.

All other languages whether of the east or west, developed as regional 'Prakrits.' The very word 'Prakrit' signifies a language 'shaped out of another (i.e. out of the divine Sanskrit). That is why all languages of the world can be traced to the language of the Vedas.

Encyclopaedia Britannica, therefore rightly notices an affinity between the Rigved and Dravidian languages. The very root 'Vid' is common to both Rigved and Dravid.

Sage Agasti (or whosoever else) and his group formed the 1st generation Dravids i.e. seers and sages through whom the Vedas were bestowed on mankind by divinity not only in India but even in Europe. As proof one may cite the word 'august' in European languages. August the European month, the title Augustus applied to Roman emperors and the 'Druids (priests) who dominated social life in ancient Europe. Druid is the European variation of the Sanskrit term Dravid. As an incidental clue one finds the Shiva Samhita listed in the literature of the European Druids.

This disproves the fancied hostility between Aryans and Dravids. It must now be realized that Vedic culture is otherwise known as Aryan culture, and Dravids were the 1st generation seers and sages who spread Aryan culture throughout the world. Those two

terms are, therefore, complementary and not mutually exclusive or antagonistic.

Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam form the four main Dravidian languages in India. In modern parlance the term Dravid connotes South India. The four languages, grouped as 'Dravidian' because they pertain to the Dravid region, all differ i- their scripts phonology and grammar. Similar is the case with other regional groups too such as North Indian, European and (so-called) Semitic languages. And yet they are all Prakrits (i. e. shaped out) of Sanskrit. It is currently mistakenly assumed that Prakrits preceded Sanskrit.

Thus each language bears some regional affinity to neighbouring languages on one hand and to its remote ancestor.......Sanskrit on the other. This applies to Tamil too. The phonology of the Tamil alphabet is the same as that of Sanskrit while its theological, social and moral thought content is identical with Vedanta.

Wide ramification from a common origin is a common rule applicable to all aspects of human life, including linguistics. Like biological cells, the multiples while bearing some similarity to the original continue to diversify from generation to generation.

If therefore, Tamil appears different that is not from lack of affinity to Sanskrit but from its antiquity...its generation gap. The wider the diversity the greater the time-gap.

It should, therefore, be realized as a basic fact of every aspect of human civilization including linguistics, that the Vedas and their language, Sanskrit form the origin of all human knowledge including speech. Consequently Panini's Sanskrit grammar must be regarded as the grammar of all grammars.

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SANSKRIT, THE MOTHER OF ALL HUMAN SPEECH AND THOUGHT

However queer, mysterious and unbelievable Sanskrit may appear, it has to be admitted that Sanskrit is not a man-made language. Panini's grammar too corroborates the divine origin of the language. Man couldn't hope to develop such a perfect language. Man's touch contaminates and distorts as is implied in our certifying products ''untouched by hand' as pure. The same may be said of Sanskrit.

A paper read at the Royal Asiatic Society, observed about Sanskrit "It was an astounding discovery, that Hindustan over which so many conquerors had passed in wrath, and left footprints as they went, possessed in spite of the changes of realm; and changes of time, a language of unrivalled richness and variety, a language the parent of all those dialects that Europe has fondly called classical, the source alike of Greek flexibility and Roman strength, a philosophy compared with which, in point of daring speculation, Plato's boldest speculations were tame and commonplace, a poetry more purely intellectual than any of those of which we had before any conception; and systems of science whose antiquity baffled all powers of astronomical calculation. This literature with all its colossal proportions which can scarcely be described without the semblance of bombast and exaggeration, claimed of course a place for itself—it stood alone and it was able to stand alone. To acquire the mastery of this language is almost the labour of a lifetime. The utmost stretch of imagination can scarcely comprehend its

boundless mythology. Its philosophy has touched upon every metaphysical difficulty; its legislation is as varied as the castes for which it was designed."[1]

Indian Antiquities (seven volumes, published between 1792 and 1800) edited by Thomas Maurice observe (on page 415 of Vol. IV) that Mr. Hallhead "seems to hint that it (i.e. Sanskrit) was the original language of the earth."

All Western scholars who really apply their mind to the problem will find themselves concurring with Mr. Hallhead that Sanskrit is the oldest language and that it was spoken all over the world. To this we should like to add that Sanskrit was a language which was bestowed, as embodying the Vedas, by divinity on humanity. It was not developed by a human agency. Other world languages are shattered, twisted bits of Sanskrit.

Sanskrit Spoken by All

Some Western scholars and their camp-followers have propagated an erroneous assumption that Sanskrit was only the language of the elite. This is an assumption based on faulty knowledge of history. We know from experience that in any given society, say English or French, the same language is spoken by everybody from prince to pauper though their style and standard of expression may differ. On the same analogy it should be realized that from time immemorial upto the Mahabharat war and for some centuries thereafter too everybody from prince to pauper, master to servant, holy man to the devil, old men to children, judge or criminal, policeman or soldier or housewife, midwife, sweepers to prostitutes and burglars to burghers, everybody spoke Sanskrit because there was no other language then. That is why all literature of ancient times for thousands of years is entirely in Sanskrit.

Remnants of those ancient Sanskrit-speaking communities may

(1) P. 392 Appendix No. XVI, W.C. Taylor's Paper of December 1834, Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society Vol II, quoted by E Pococke in his book titled India in Greece.

still be traced in different parts of the world. For instance, The Times of India of July 9, 1980 reported the finding of D.D. Sharma Reader in the Sanskrit department of Punjab University, that Sanskrit was spoken even by the low-caste. According to him the Chinal community living in the Pattan valley of the Himalayan region speaks a language "very close to Sanskrit" not only in vocabulary but even in grammatical structure. Similarly the community of Lohars (i.e.Blacksmiths) in Shamsu village also speak a language akin to Sanskrit though less pure than that of the Chinals.

Maxmueller's Conclusion

That Maxmueller, the German scholar in British service, at least vaguely realized the primordiality of Sanskrit is apparent from his observation that "Sanskrit no doubt has an immense advantage over all the other ancient languages of the East. It is so attractive and has been so widely admired, that it almost seems at times to excite a certain amount of feminine jealousy. We are ourselves Indo-Europeans. In a certain sense we are still speaking and thinking Sanskrit, or more correctly Sanskrit is like a dear aunt to us and she takes the place of a mother who is no more."[2]

The meandering logic of Maxmueller in the above quotation typifies the confusion that exists in the minds of all Western scholars and their understudies. Maxmueller's first mistake is that he reckons Sanskrit only as one of the ancient languages and that too only of the East, while actually Sanskrit is the first and only language that global humanity used for millions of years. Later Maxmueller says that Indo-Europeans still "speak and think Sanskrit". He doesn't realize the inconsistency in first stating that Sanskrit is a language only of the East, and then adding that even Europeans think in it and speak in it. Therefore, it would be right to conclude that though Maxmueller had vaguely realized, because of his scholarship, that Sanskrit formed the foundation of all languages yet as a Christian, as a European and as a highbrow official of the mighty British Empire, then at the very zenith of its glory,

(2) P.163, Vol. I, Chips from a German Workshop.

Maxmueller was unwittingly trying hard to key down the importance of Sanskrit against his own scholarly convictions.

Picket records "Sanskrit is the most beautiful perhaps of all languages, the language already perfected to a very high degree."[3]

Sanskrit Aarsha Literature

Indian tradition unequivocally asserts that ancient Sanskrit literature comprising the Vedas, Upanishads, the Puranas and the epics is of divine orign and is 'aarsha' i.e. transcribed by inspired sages. The German philosopher Augustus Schlegel uncannily realized this as is apparent from his remark "It cannot be denied that the early Indians possessed a knowledge of God. All their writings are related with sentiments and expressions, noble, clear, severely grand, as deeply conceived in any human language in which men have spoken of their God."[4]

At another place Schlegel remarks "Even the loftiest philosophy of the Europeans, the idealism of reason as is set forth by Greek philosophers appears in comparison with the abundant light and vigour of Oriental idealism like a feeble Promethean spark in the full flood of heavenly glory of the noon-day sun, faltering and feeble and even ready to be extinguished."[5]

Another German author, Schopenhaur opines "In the whole world there is no study so beneficial and so elevating as that of the Upanishads. It has been the solace of my life and will be the solace of my death."[6]

Latin Derives from Sanskrit

Contradicting the popular notion that Latin language developed out of Greek Godfrey Higgins observes "There are many objections to the derivation of the Latin from the Greek. Latin exhibits many terms in a more rude form than Greek.........Latin was derived from Sanskrit".[7]

(3) P.12, Origin of Indo-Europeans, by Picket.
(4) Wisdom of the Ancient Indians by A. Schlegel.
(5) History of Literature, A Schlegel.
(6) P. 61, The Upanishads, Introduction, Schopenhaur.
(7) P. 61, The Celtic Druids by Godfrey Higgins.

KOI=OM IIΛ= These words which were not understood by the Greeks, are pure Sanskrit; and are used at this day by the Brahmins at the conclusion of religious rites. They are thus written in the language of the Gods, as the Hindu call the language of the sacred books.

"Causcha, OM, Pachsa", Causcha signifies the object of our most ardent wishes. OM is the famous monosyllable used both at the beginning and the end of prayer or any religious rite, like Amen. Pachsa answers to the obsolete Latin word viz; it signifies change, course, stead, place, turn of work, duty, fortune. It is used particularly after making libations in honour of the Gods and Pitris. I have no doubt that these mysteries came from the same quarter and by the same people who brought the Sanskrit language in Italy.....The Hindu polity was certainly established long before the Greeks had any historical accounts of their Elusian mysteries. When the Greeks began to write histories they knew not whence they came."[8]

From what is noted above it is quite clear that the Vedic practice of beginning and ending Vedic chants with OM, and Sanskrit, the language of those chants constituted the common heritage of all mankind.

India the Origin

About all human civilization having originated from India and Hinduism Higgins observes "The peninsula of India would be one of the first peopled countries, and its inhabitants would have all the habits of the progenitors of man before the flood in as much perfection or more than any other nation...... In short, whatever learning man possessed before his dispersion... may be expected to be found here, and of this Hindustan affords innumerable traces..... notwithstanding all.... the fruitless efforts of our priests to disguise it."[9]

(8) Pp.64-65, Ibid.
(9) P.66, Ibid.

Higgins is a very discerning and honest Christian author because he clearly realizes that India, Vedic culture and Sanskrit form the very roots of world culture, and he accuses Christian priests of trying to hide the fact that all so-called Christian practices originate in Vedic culture.

The Divine Origin of Sanskrit

The Encyclopaedia Britannica (P.70,Vol.13, 1951 edition) by implication concedes the primordiality and divine origin of Sanskrit in observing that "Some scholars (among them quite recently W.Schmidt) see the insufficiency of usual theories, *and giving up all attempts at explaining it in a natural way fell back on the religious belief that the first language was directly given to first man by God through miracle*"

Logical, metaphysical thinking must not be dismissed as 'religious'. It needs to be recognized that metaphysics is not only as much a science as physics but is in fact a wider science encompassing every branch of human learning under the sun. Unlike other sciences, metaphysics cannot afford to take a one-sided or lop-sided view of the universe or a certain portion. Metaphysics has to correlate them all and present a composite and consistent picture of cosmic life. When endeavouring to think about linguistics, therefore, if top-class thinkers are forced to admit that at the start of the world there must have been a universal God-given language that must be considered as a scientific conclusion and not merely religious, philosophical or spiritual. If conferring such a language on humanity at the start was a miracle what is wrong? Because everything and every event in this world is a miracle if we come to think of it.

Another author frankly concedes "After much futile discussion, linguists have reached the conclusion that the data with which they are concerned yield little or no evidence about the origin of human speech."[10]

(10) P.40, An Introduction to Linguistic Science, New Haven.

Another author admits "If there is one thing on which all linguists are fully agreed it is that the problem of the origin of human speech is still unsolved."[11] On page 315 of the same volume it is stated that "the problem of the origin of language does not admit of any satisfactory solution."

When some of the best scholars of linguistics thus openly confess at being baffled at the origin of languages, why not pay a little more serious and sympathetic attention to the consistent and categorical Vedic tradition that human civilization began with a head-start given by divinity itself by creating the first few generations of human beings equipped with the Sanskrit language and comprehensive Vedic knowledge about running human affairs with all their arts and sciences.

All Alphabets Derive from a Single Source

Regarding the alphabet in particular L.W.King, S.H.Langdon, F.L.Griffith, W.F.Petrie, L.A. Waddell, E.Burrows, C.L.Woolley, G.A. Barton, Sir E.A. Wallis Budge, E. Burrows, Hunter, A.J. Evans have all tried unsuccessfully to wrestle with the problem of the original alphabet or alphabets. An Italian author David Dringer has tentatively concluded (on page 195 of the English translation of his book titled: **The Alphabet**) as a sort of a nutshell finding that "In dealing with the history of the alphabet I include all the alphabets, because all of them probably derived from one original alphabet."

In the foreword (P XI) to that book Sir Ellis Minns observes "Our author proves with a new completeness the astonishing fact that almost certainly *every alphabetic writing of any importance derives from one source, and the obscure scripts were derived by men who were aware of the existence of perfected alphabets*. This is a fascinating result. It is so rare in life that so sweeping a generalization is tenable."

Rigveda Belongs to all Humanity

In the context of the above conclusions about the origin of

(11) P.18, The Story of Languages, London.

human speech and alphabet, let us consider the observation of Rev. Morris Philip "After the latest researches into the history and chronology of the book of Old Testament, we may safely now call the Rigveda as the oldest book not only of the Aryan community but of the whole world."[12]

The reference to an Aryan community in the above quotation is of course not right because the term Arya signifies Vedic culture and not a race or community. But for that little flaw the main assertion in the above extract that the Rigveda is the oldest book of the whole world, is absolutely right. And Rigveda marks the beginning of God-given knowledge, Sanskrit speech and the Sanskrit alphabet.

Sanskrit the Common Language of all

Another scholar, H.H. Wilson has observed "the affinities of the Sanskrit language prove the common origin of the now widely scattered nations amongst whose dialects they are traceable, and render it unquestionable that they must all have spread abroad from some central spot in that part of the globe first inhabited by mankind according to the inspired record." [13]

Thus a number of Western scholars of several nations tend to conclude that the Vedas, Sanskrit language and the Sanskrit alphabet form the very core and root of all human civilization.

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(12) P.213, The Teaching of the Vedas, by Rev Morris Philip.
(13) P.ciii, Preface to Vishnu Puran, Oxford.

VEDIC SCIENCE

Eversince India was overrun first by Muslim invaders and later by Christian powers enslaved Hindus have been so thoroughly brainwashed as to denigrate themselves and assert that their Vedic ancestors knew nothing, for instance, about the blood-circulation system in the human body or that the earth was round and revolving etc. until European Christians told them about it.

These are only a few typical instances of the dangers inherent in being tutored in histories written by one's own enemies.

Demoralizing a victim by continually dinning into his ears venomous propaganda that he and his ancestors have been good-for-nothing fellows is a time-worn method of psychological assault used by aggressors in addition to slaughter by the sword and conversion by threats, torment or temptation. Such denigration often forces the victim to commit suicide. Hindudom has been a victim of such motivated psychological assault for the last 1235 years (712 to 1947 A.D). The claim that Pythagoras, Galileo, Copernicus and Newton for the first time discovered certain great scientific truths which were otherwise unknown to humanity is a typical sample of that dangerous, demoralizing propaganda. It is not, however, realized by the originators of that propaganda that their assertions reveal their own ignorance about pre-Christian history.

They must also realize that since the Vedas constitute a divine

compendium of cosmic knowledge, to assert that the inheritors of the Vedas, namely the ancient Hindus, were a set of illiterate, rustic bums amounts to a confession of the asserter's own ignorance of the very basic facts about human history.

Pandit Raghunandan Sharma's Hindi volume titled **Vedic Sampatti** (literally Vedic Wealth) Gives some valuable information to disprove those defamatory assertions :- Page 290 :

चक्राणास: परीणहं पृथिव्या हिरण्येन मणिना शुम्भमाना: ।
न हिन्वानासस्तितिरस्त इंद्रं परिस्पशो अदधात् सूर्येण ॥

Is a Rigvedic stanza (1/33/8) which states that the earth is spherical. Half of it is illuminated by the Sun and the other half remains dark (at any given time). The earth is strung by the Sun's gravitation. Rigved 10/149/1

सविता यंत्रै: पृथिवीमरम्णात् अस्कम्भने सविता द्यामदृंहत् ।

The Solar mechanism makes the earth revolve in the skies.

Planets too are taut in the same system.

In the million-year ancient Ramayan (Balkand, Sarge 60) it is stated :-

गगने तान्यनेकानि वैश्वानरपथाद्बहि: ।
नक्षत्राणि मुनिश्रेष्ठ ते तु ज्योतिषुजाज्वलन् ॥

"In the heavens beyond the Zodiac are innumerable sparkling stars."

Thus the entire cosmic astronomy is most accurately described in ancient Sanskrit texts in the utmost detail.

In fact modern scientists would do well to look for solutions for their problems in the ancient Sanskrit texts.

"Prof. Ludwig holds that the Rigved mentions the inclination of the ecliptic with the equator (1-10-12) and the axis of the earth (10-89-4)" Orion, page 58, by B. G. Tilak.

Telescope

The ancient Vedic technological compendium known as Silpasamhita describes the telescope thus :

मनोर्वाञ्छं समाधाय तेन शिल्पीन्द्र शाश्वत ।
यंत्रं चकार सहसा दृष्टर्थ दूरदर्शनम् ॥
पल्लवग्रौ दम्भमृदा कृत्वा कायमनश्वरं ।
शोधयित्वा तु शिल्पीन्द्रो नैर्मल्यं क्रियते च ॥
चकार बलवलस्वच्छं पातनं सुपविष्कृतम् ।
वंशपर्वसमाकारं धातुदण्डकल्पितम् ॥
तत्पश्चापद्मामध्येषु मुकुरंच विवेश स: ।

"First manufacture glass through roasted earth. Fix those glasses at either end and in the middle of a hollow tube. This is as useful as the turi-yantra in observing distant celestial bodies.

Magnetism

In Vaisheshik (5-1-15) Kanaad an ancient Vedic scientist writes that a piece of iron leaps at a magnet because of an unseen force.

A Silpa Samhita Sanskrit manuscript in the Jain library at Anhilpur in Gujarat describes how a Dhruv-Matsya -Yantra may be made. It also describes how a thermometer may be made with the help of mercury, thread, oil and water.

Another manuscript known as **Siddhanta Shiromani** also describes an ancient thermometer.

Ancient astronomical treatises describe how a timeclock shaped like a man, peacock or monkey filled with sand helped to measure time.

Barometer

A barometer was also in use in ancient times which helped to predict the approach of storms or monsoon.

Automobile

An ancient Sanskrit text known as **Bhoj-Prabandh** mentions a wooden horse owned by king Bhoj which used to travel 22 miles

in 24 minutes and a fan which used to rotate without manual help to give a sharp breeze

Aircraft

An ancient manuscript titled **Gayachintamani** mentions an aircraft shaped like a peacock. The scripture Bhagwat describes an aircraft owned by King Shalb.

Bharadwaj's volume titled **Anshubodhini** has a special chapter on aircraft.

ENERGY

Ancient Vedic technological energy sources were of eight kinds viz. (1) Machines run on electricity were known as Shaktyodgama. (2) Machines running with energy produced from natural elements such as water or fire were known as Bhoot-Vaha (3) Machines which used to run on steam were known as Dhoom-Yan (4) Some mechanisms which seem to derive their power from 'gems' were known as Suryakant or Chandrakant (5) There were machines which were operated with air power. (6) Panch-Shikhi machines used to run on oil (petrol, diesel etc.) (7) Machines run with solar energy. (8) Machines run with magnetic power.

Shukra Neeti

Shukra Neeti is an important ancient Sanskrit text dealing with the manufacture of armaments such as rifles and field guns.

Robots

Ramayan mentions Ravan having made a life-like Sita which could even simulate Sita's lament for Rama.

Telephone

On page 316 of his volume **Vedic Sampatti** the author, Pandit Raghunandan Sharma discloses that in the village of Patthar-ghati in the erstwhile princely state of Hyderabad there lived Dr. Mohamad Kasim. His ancestors were Brahmin royal priests of the Hindu rulers of Bijapur. He retained in his house a collection of ancient Sanskrit

manuscripts. One of the volumes dealt with the mechanisms of telephones and another with the process of mummifying bodies.

Shukra-Neeti, chapter I, stanza 367 refers to the technique by which a king could acquaint himself of a happening 20,000 miles away within a day.

अयुत श्रवशजां वार्ता हरेदेकदिनेनेव ।

Water from Moon

A (natural or synthetic) diamond known as Chandrakant-Mani was used to produce medicinal water with the help of moonlight, to administer to the sick.

Susrut's stanza 45/27 refers to this process as under :-

रक्षोघ्नं शीतलं हादि जारदाहविषापहम् ।
चंद्रकान्तोद्भवम् वारि पित्तघ्नं विमलं स्मृतम् ॥

The mediaeval Muslim chronicle Ain-e-Akbari also refers (on page 40) to a shining white Moonstone which when exposed to moonlight drips water.

Ancient Sanskrit texts mention clouds and lightning being 12 yojanas from the earth in the skies.

भूमेर्बहिःद्वादशयोजनानि भूवायुरम्बाम्बुदविद्युताद्याम्

Sun-Spots

Mention is also found of Sun-spots in the Ramayana when Rama addresses Lakshman thus :-

ह्रस्वो रूक्षोऽप्रशस्तश्च परिवेषस्तु लोहितः ।
आदित्ये विमले नीलं लक्ष्म लक्ष्मण दृश्यते ॥

(Yuddhakand 23/9)

Fire Worship

The fire sacrifice alias fire-worship which accompanied every Vedic ritual and ceremony is known to have had at least three physical (environmental) effects namely purifying the air, killing volatile germs and helping cloud formation and rain.

Possibly such fire-worship has also some salutary psychological, spiritual and sociological effects.

Waving holy lamps around a person's face on various occasions is also known to create a protective divine halo

♦♦

Some modern archaeologists often ask in all innocence as to why no relics of ancient armaments and mechanisms are ever discovered if there had been great technological progress achieved in ancient times? The answer is that passage of time destroys everything. If by chance any relic is left it cannot be identified. Yet news media did report that around 20 years ago a functional battery in a working condition was infact found in the sandy soil of Iraq.

Components of the Baghdad battery on show in the Iraq Museum

ANCIENT NUCLEAR ESTABLISHMENTS

One's eyesight has a comparatively very short range. As the distance increases, objects seem to fade out, and beyond a certain limit nothing is visible at all. And yet far far away beyond the range of one's sight things exist and events do happen, yet one doesn't take any cognizance of them.

The same rule operates in history. Doings of remoter generations fade out of public memory and become unknown to every succeeding generation.

But in such cases the remedy lies not in basing one's thinking on what one sees only with one's physical eye but in augmenting one's capacity to look beyond with the help of more powerful aids such as a microscope or telescope.

Analogical Historical Logic

Likewise in history, to recall or reconstruct the events of the unknown generations one has to stretch one's imagination and develop one's ability to take an overall view of human existence and be able to draw inferences from analogies.

Let us ask ourselves the question that since humanity has lived on this globe for billions of years, is it possible that the industrial, scientific and technological advancement that we have witnessed during the last 150 years never occurred earlier? A period of 150 years in the illimitable stretch of time is like a mere fleeting spark

or split-second. Many periods of industrial, scientific and technological advancement must have preceded our own. This conclusion reached by analogical historical logic is reinforced by actual references to wonder travel-craft, mystery missiles and miracle-drugs mentioned in epics like the Ramayan, the Mahabharat and other ancient scriptures.

Archaeological Objections Not Valid

The usual objection that archaeological finds have not justified any high scientific advancement in the earlier ages could be over-ruled as unsound. Firstly, could it be said that we have dug the entire surface of the earth everywhere to the required depth to be sure that there are no more archaeological remains to be discovered?

Secondly, is it not possible that twisted lumps of metal forming parts of ancient mechanical devices were actually found in diggings but were overlooked as being inconsequential lumps?

Thirdly, some ancient mechanical devices have, in fact, been found but have not been given due importance and publicity. For instance a 2000-year ancient battery dug up from the Baghdad region and capable of functioning even now has been on display in several European countries.

Fourthly the sceintific advancement of the Ramayan and Mahabharat periods is so ancient a phenomenon that remnants of their mechanical devices couldn't be expected to survive for our study.

Fifthly, the extreme heat under the earth's surface, pressure of the rocks, and the freezing temperature in icy regions may have made the survival of ancient mechanical devices upto our own times impossible.

Sixthly geologists have come across the curious phenomenon of older rocks sitting on the shoulders of younger rocks, that is to say when one digs the earth one comes across first, rocks, which geologists say, are older in age than the rocks below them. How does this happen? Do the bowels of the earth undergo periodic

convulsions, turmoils and upsets which draw in the upper layer deep down and throw up inner layers? If such giant convulsions and stirrings are constantly taking place inside the earth all archaeological remains of ancient ages would naturally be drawn in and pulverized so as to become indistinguishable.If potsherds are the only relics which survive for any length of time that is because they are more recent.

Such are the factors which militate against a strict archaeological view. Therefore in such cases analogical historical logic and ancient records (however mystical or magical they might occur to us) must be made use of.

In that short-sighted historical tradition (mentioned by us in the opening paras of this chapter) European writers have tended to boost European scientists as pioneers in human history. Since the entire educational set-up in the modern world is dominated by Western concepts that claim about European scientists having been the first of their kind has generally remained unchallenged.

Ancient Vedic Scientists

That claim must not however be accepted. Bhaskara, the ancient mathematician discovered differential calculus long before the Europeans. Aryabhata of the 1st century B.C. (if not earlier) enunciated the rules for the extraction of square and cube roots, arithmetical progressing summation of series and the value of Pye. The famous indeterminate equation of the second degree that the ancient Vedic mathematician Brahmagupta was familiar with is wrongly claimed to be the discovery of Euler. In astronomy Vedic scientists talked of the dimensions of galectic universe and the age of the solar system. Thousands of years before Einstein sage Vyas had spoken of 'digdesakalabheda' i.e. annihilation of the difference between time and space. European claims are, therefore, short-sighted. In history too one tends to regard events and persons nearer in point of time as bigger than those of a remoter date. The reality may, however, be the reverse.

Therefore, even as a hypothesis let us assume that when divinity

created this world, billions of years ago, it equipped the first generation of human beings with godly expertise in all fields of human knowledge. Consequently, it could be that human physical, mental and technological standards have progressively deteriorated from the Kruta Yug to Treta, and Dwapar. Our own Kali-Yug appears to be at the lowest rung wherein standards of physical endurance, mental comprehension, character, behaviour reliability, loyalty etc. seem to be at a very low ebb.

Knowledge Not Evolved But Devolved

That all human knowledge and expertise has devolved from the divine summit (and not evolved from the cave-man stage) is borne out by ancient Sanskrit texts. Whichever the branch of knowledge from music to medicine, every master speaks of its divine origin. Another clue is that no matter how far back we reach in time every author speaks of a remoter master. None claims to be a pioneer or self-taught expert.

Greeks Not Pioneers

It is habitual these days to look upon the Greeks as the pioneers of civilization. Scientific advancement existed much before we read of Greeks. Godfrey Higgins observes "In science the Greeks were pigmies. What would they have known of science, if their Platos and Pythagorases had not travelled into the East! In science and real learning they were inferior to the Orientals, and were the greatest liars upon earth. They wilfully mis-stated everything or they foolishly confounded everything."[1]

The Compass

Higgins adds " the marinar's compass was known to the ancients and it was never lost entirely..... and always continued to be known to the Chinese and the Eastern nations whence it was brought to Europe from China by Marco Polo and from the Indian seas, about the same time by Vasco de Gama. That this knowledge should

(1) P.112 The Celtic Druids, by Godfrey Higgins,

have been possessed by the ancients, will not surprise anyone who has seen the learned work of Monsieur Dutens, **Sur les Deconverte des Anciens Attributes aux Modernes.**"[2]

The Telescope

"Many persons have thought that the Druids and the ancients generally had the use of telescopes. According to Strabo, a large mirror was elevated on the summit of the Temple of the Sun at Heliopolis, to reflect into the temple the full splendour of its meridian beam, whilst another of still larger dimensions was placed on the Pharos at Alexandria in such a manner as to reflect ships approaching Egypt at a great distance, and imperceptible to the eye. Diodorus Siculus says, that in an island west of the Caltac, the Druids brought the Sun and Moon near them... The ancients knew that the Milky way consisted of small stars... the expression in one of the Triads, of the moon appearing near the earth, is curious...Sir William Drummond (author of **Origines**) supposes, that the ravages and destruction caused by the iconoclasts of Persia, had caused the loss of science in Chaldea and Egypt "[3] The above references indicate the use of solar energy in ancient times when in our own times we are just beginning to make some preliminary experiments in its use.

Gun Powder

"Druids...were acquainted with.... the art of making gun powder or artificial thunder and lightning. The storm of thunder and lightning which, in three attempts made to rob their temple, kindled in the face of the invaders as they approached it and drove back with loss and terror both Xerxes and Brennus, cannot be imagined any other than this. Lucan's satirical description of the Druidical grove near Marseilles 'that the grove is often shaken and strangely moved, and that dreadful sounds are heard from its caverns; and that it is sometimes in a blaze without being

(2) P. 113, ibid.

(3) Pp. 114-115, ibid.

consumed" (points to the use of gun powder). In the poem of Dargo, the son of the Druid of Bel, phenomena of a somewhat similar nature are mentioned...Mr. Maurice states, that the Hindoos had the knowledge of the gun powder even from the most remotest antiquity. In this he is supported by Mr.Crawford (Vol. II,P.149) "[4]

Mathematics

The Vedas themselves contain the keys to the most complicated mathematical systems and calculations. Those can be deciphered by accomplished mathematicians with the required meditative concentration. The late Shankaracharya of Puri had demonstrated it in his treatise called **Vedic Mathematics**

That the Vedas should contain the keys to all mathematical configurations appears plausible because the Vedas are technological compendiums of the cosmos in which we live. Since the Vedas were delivered by divinity along with the inauguration of human life, high mathematics was known to the ancients. This is apparent from the figure called 'Lok' of 10^{19} i.e. nineteen 'zeros' on 10 which has been a part of human knowledge from the beginning of the universe, and is not an invention of a few thousand years ago as is generally assumed, and secondly such an astronomical figure connotes the highest mathematical competence and the most complicated technological requirements.

Vedic Statistics

In Vedic recitations the number of verses is 10,580, syllables 1,53,820 and letters 4,32,000. Such a meticulous count kept from the beginning of time also indicates that the zero is not a latter-day man-made invention.

It may also be noted that as per Vedic tradition, the duration of every life-cycle is 4,320 million (human) years. That figure is an exact multiple of the number of letters which constitute the Vedas. Is that a mere concidence or is there some subtle relation

(4) Pp. 115-116 ibid.

between the two ?

Geometry

The Vedic Shulba-Sootras could contain the keys to the highest geometrical calculations. Unfortunately they are being currently attributed only a primitive significance namely that they contain the dimensions and methods of sketching a pit and altar for a sacrificial fire. If some geometrical genius meditates on the Shulba Sootras he may be able to deduce the highest geometrical truths from them. The ancients are also known to have practised alchemy and used mercury vapour for powering aircraft.

Nuclear Energy

It has been explained elsewhere that terms like atom and molecule are Sanskrit. They indicate that nuclear physics was known in the ancient eras. There are several other similar indications. Consider the words Mantra-Tantra-Yantra. Mantra is the formula. Tantra is technology and Yantra is mechanism. But eversince that highly developed science and technology was lost those three words Mantra-Tantra-Yantra have acquired only a mystic, esoteric meaning. This is but natural, for when the kernel is lost the empty shell appears to be meaningless. Or at best it will be put to some trivial use, as a mere receptacle for instance. This is what has happened to ancient Hindu, Vedic technology. The technique having been lost the surviving terminology is being attributed only a mythological, ritualistic, esoteric, mystic, religious or spiritual significance. Thus for instance, Vedic tradition retains a compendium of ancient tantric designs made up of squares, rectangles, triangles and circles all intricately woven into one another to form different complicated, symmetrical patterns. They could very well be ancient circuit channels for different technological devices. In our own time we have such energy circuits and channels in our radio and TV sets, atomic reactors and other mechanisms.

All these circuits will appear to be meaningless diagrams devoid of all practical use if their technology is lost for some reason. For instance, if our petrol sources suddenly dry up our automobile

and aircraft technology will all come to a dead halt. The hulks of our automobiles, trucks, tanks, armoured cars and aircraft will be useless. Yet their shapes and energy circuits and one-time service and energy potential lingering in public memory will arouse a sense of awe and respect. But all that will appear meaningless or an empty baseless boast to other matter-of-fact people.

A similar thing may be sensed about the terminological relics of Vedic technology that survive today.

The Twelve Ancient Nuclear Reactors

Take the instance of the Hindu's traditional reverence for the 12 legendary centres of Shiv worship known as Jyotirlingas. The name of these 12 are Somnath, Mallikarjun, Mahankaleswar, Omkareswar, Vaidyanath, Nagnath, Kedareswar, Tryambakeswar, Rameswar, Bheemashankar, Vishwanath and Ghrishneswar.

Every orthodox, devout Hindu harbours a feeling of great, respectful awe towards those Shiv shrines. Every pious Hindu considers himself lucky if he can pray at each one of those ancient Shiv temples at least once in a lifetime. A visit to all the 12 gives every devout Hindu a sense of spiritual fulfilment.

While it has been universally assumed hitherto that those 12 Shiv emblems are objects of mere esoteric, spiritual homage, there are overwhelming indications that the Shiv emblem symbolizes atomic reactors of an immemorial past. There are innumerable irresistible points of identity between the two.

Consider the name Shivling itself. The term 'Shiv' means blissful, while the syllable 'ling' signifies a sign or an emblem.

Also consider the shape. The shape of a Shivling is identical with that of a modern atomic reactor as that at Trombay in India. An aerial photograph of the atomic reactor unit gives it the look of a Shivling.

If modern physicists have any reliable methods and instruments to verify the existence of nuclear energy production centres of 5000

to a million years ago, they would do well to have the 12 legendary Jyotirlinga sites tested. R. N. Shukla of Pune has done it.

On a closer analysis of the Sanskrit term Jyotirling, it would be found to connote literally nothing but an atomic reactor. In Sanskrit the word 'Jyoti' connotes the shimmering light of cosmic masses such as stars. The suffix 'ling' implies productivity alias a productive energy-generator. Therefore, the term Jyotirling connotes a mechanism generating cosmic energy.

Lord Shiva whom the Joytirling symbolizes is also known as Tryambakesh i.e. The Lord with three eyes. The Greek term Bacchus is the truncated last syllable of the name Tryambakesh of Lord Shiv.

The third eye, usually closed and invisible is supposed to he hidden inside the middle of Shiva's forehead. The Greek legends which talk of giants called Cyclops having a wheel-like eye in the middle of the forehead are based on the Hindu Shiv concept. It is also believed that the interior of the mid-forehead shelters the key molecule (what we call the 'soul') which controls, governs and determines a person's life and physique.

When Shiv is moved to wrath His third eye opens to let out a jet of lustre which dazzles and destroys the universe. That destructive lustre is what we call nuclear energy.

Lord Shiv is the repository of that destructive energy because in the Hindu Brahma-Vishnu-Mahesh trinity, Māhesh is Lord Shiva-the destroyer.

At the same time the term Shiv in Sanskrit implies peaceful bliss and well-being obviously indicating that the energy that lies hidden inside Lord Shiv, can be used for peaceful purposes too. Contrarily, Shiva's destructive role is apparent in synonyms such as 'Mahakal' meaning 'the great destroyer' and Mahapralayankari i.e. the one who causes cataclysmic destruction. Thus the names alias attributes of Lord Shiv will be found on analysis to be indicative of both the peaceful uses as well as the destructive potential of

nuclear energy.

It can well be visualized that keepers of any atomic reactor could spring a leak in it to scorch the world if they feel worked up even as an angry Lord Shiva can open His invisible third eye to destroy the cosmos.

Energy Centres

The modern English word 'power' used for electrical or nuclear energy is, in fact, a literal translation of the Sanskrit word 'shakti'. Its Sanskrit derivation 'shaakta' applied to devotees of Lord Shiv and His consort the terrible goddess Kali, also signifies nuclear physicists who handle the production of atomic energy.

Because Lord Shiv symbolizes destruction His usual abode is the crematorium. There He squats with His bare body smeared with ash, immersed in deep meditation. His consort is Kali alias Durga, Chandika, Bhagawati, Bhawani or Parvati. She is shown fierce with large, bulging eyes staring in rage. Her red tongue hangs out as though in insatiable hunger to devour all life, while in her right hand is a blood-stained sword. Under her feet lies a demon helplessly trampled. Hanging from Her neck is a garland of skulls and bones. Shaaktaas are also known traditionally to wear garlands of human bones and skulls.

Skulls and Bones

In the modern world it is common to indicate high energy danger spots such as poles supporting high tension electric wires, with cross-bones and skull. This is clearly a carryover of the ancient Hindu Shaakta tradition. Conversely it is a clear pointer to the fact that the ancient Hindu Shakti (Shaakta) tradition was not mere spiritual rigmarole but production of nuclear energy.

Shaakta workers were known as devotees because they were devoted single-mindedly to 'energy' research in complete isolation amidst dense forests. The technicians among them were known as Tantriks. The English words technique, technicians and tantrums are derived from the Sanskrit word 'Tantram' i.e. technique.

The current meaning of 'mantra' signifying a spiritual incantation when applied to science and technology, meant formula. Every Hindu scientist had to learn all the mantras i.e. formulae of his branch of specialization by heart, so that he had them all at the tip of his tongue, be he a doctor, engineer or nuclear scientist.

During a protracted 1235-year period of alien invasions and rule when the ancient Hindu academic and scientific set-up was broken and burnt, what survives it now as Shiv worship could be symbolic of ancient Hindu nuclear expertise.

Energy Generation

Sanskrit chants of specialized Shiv worship known as Laghu Rudra and Maha Rudra could as well be codified formulae of the ancient Hindu nuclear energy production technique. That code needs to be split and probed into by modern nuclear experts (who should be Sanskrit scholars) through meditative concentration.

The Laboratory Fire

The sacrificial fire which Hindus invariably light for all rituals could well be the laboratory fire of ancient scientists.

Energy Circuits

Lord Shiva's devotees known as Shkaktas and Tantriks preserve a number of ancient intricate geometrical patterns which they reverently worship. These they very significantly term as 'Yantras' i.e. machines alias 'energy circuits'. Those could well be the surviving design drawings of ancient technical devices as we have printed circuits of transistors and television sets.

A Shiving is traditionally rooted in standing water below the ground level. Over the emblem also hangs a pitcher which constantly drips water over the Shivling. The holy Ganga is also depicted as flowing over the head of Lord Shiv. All these indicate condensation devices. In our own times we know that all establishments which generate high energy and heat need corresponding condensation arrangements. The very fact that Shivling is associated with so

many cooling devices (including the crescent moon on its forehead) is a clear indication of the Shivling symbolizing a nuclear reactor.

Shiva The Destroyer

The angry, destructive form of Shiv is known as Rudra. That is evidently the destructive, cataclysmic aspect of atomic energy. Against this the crescent on Shiv's forehead acts like an icepack on the brow of a person running high temperature. In Vedic tradition the moon associated with the cool night as against hot day, symbolizes coolth. It also may commemorate the moon landing of the ancient Hindus with the use of spacecraft. Remembering the maxim that history repeats itself, it is quite possible that men may have landed on the moon in the ancient past as they are doing in our own day.

Poisonous Energy

Lord Shiv is known as Neelkanth i.e. one whose throat has turned blue (with 'Halahal' poison). That is indicative of the highly poisonous nuclear energy held captive in the throat of nuclear reactors.

The deadly cobra coiling around Shiva's neck and raising its fearful hood over Lord Shiva's head, is also another indication of the deadly potential of the Shiva establishment.

Shiva's angry form is also known as Bhairava which is a compound of two Sanskrit words (भय-रव) 'Bhaya-rava' i.e. one producing a terrible sound. From modern experience we know that an atomic blast results in a deafening sound.

In this context it may be pointed out that to continue to believe, as heretofore, that ancient Hindu Vedic and other chants are mere spiritual incantations is a mistake.

It may be recalled also that there are existing traditions of intoning Vedic chants in different ways. Each tradition breaks up the words and accentuates the different syllables in its own way giving a different turn to the entire meaning of the same chant.

Therefore, it appears that *Vedic stanzas are multi-channel codes of highly complicated and intricate scientific and mathematical formulae concerning great technological attainments.* Only their theological, metaphysical and spiritual character is known so far.

It is, therefore, that one hears of great and wise sages in hoary Hindu tradition devoting themselves all the time to Vedic chants and studies and in sylvan seclusion keeping a constant laboratory-type fire burning. Each sage and seer ran his own academy. He had his own group and following of devoted students and disciples.

The fact that the ancient Hindus had attained mastery in astronomical mathematics, physical culture (through yoga and breath control), medicine (Ayurved), architecture and town-planning should be indication enough that they had reached a high standard of advancement in all branches of learning, because all learning is interdependent. Moreover, in the seething mass of humanity the brain cells of each individual attain an insight in their own pet, chosen field of learning. Therefore if Hindus had attained remarkable mastery in the branches of learning mentioned above, they must have attained a mastery in fields like engineering, technology, aeronautics and space travel. Such deductions should form part of research methodology.

Some of those technological texts are still available. It may also be noted that on the pedestal of the Shivling are carved ripple-like semi-elliptical orbits which are indicative of the movements of atomic particles like protons and photons. The 'ons' ending of those words is the Sanskrit term 'anu' alias 'anoos' signifying an 'atomic particle'. Those ripples are indicative of the process of nuclear fission inside the Shivling.

From time immemorial the Hindus also have an elaborate nuclear (and other scientific) terminology in use in everyday life. Just as the modern educated youth talks of particles like the molecules, atom, photon, proton and neutron, the Hindus have been talking of parallel terms like anu, renu and paramanu. In fact even the terms molecule, atom and missile are Sanskrit terms.

Modern countries are dumping nuclear wastes in the sea. A similar development is recorded in the Mahabharat. The Yadava tribe of Lord Krishna fearful of the consequences of a nuclear missile lying in their region 'powdered' it and dumped it into the sea. As the story goes, the powder sprouted seaweed. During a drunken brawl the Yadavas uprooted that weed to strike one another with, in an internecine feud which proved fatal to the entire Yadava tribe. In that same region is located the famous Somnath shrine, one of the 12 Jyotirlingas. That could have been one of the ancient atomic reactors.

The Dangerous Effluent

Devotees of Shiva emblems complete only a 3/4th round of the perambulation. Tradition enjoins them to turn back from the Shiva worship water-outlet. They are not supposed to cross that waste-water channel. This clearly implies that the waste water emerging from the Shivling (reactor) being radioactive should not be crossed. Obviously Shivling reactors used to let out radioactive affluents.

A scientific neutralizer also used to be provided. Namely when a Gharund (demoniac gargoyle) is placed at the outlet and the waste water is channelled through it, devotees may freely cross the water channel to complete the perambulation circuit. This is clear, corroborative evidence that the ancient Hindus had devised a scientific gadget known as Gharund by which they could neutralize atomic waste. The demoniac countenance of the Gharund gargoyle is also significant inasmuch as the mechanism which could 'digest' and neutralize the demoniac effects of radiation must itself be 'demoniac'. It is well known that the Kaba in Mecca in Saudi Arabia is an ancient Shiv temple. There the current perambulation consists of seven rounds anti-clockwise. This is significantly Hindu because the Hindus also return anti-clockwise from the waste-water channel, only in Shiv-temples.

Saudi Arabia, now a desert, was once covered with a lush green, verdant forest. It is possible that the mishandling of the Shivling

reactor in the Kaba, as a result of some invasion turned Arabia into an arid waste.

Since Australia too is a somewhat similar desert it would be worthwhile for scientists to search for the site of an ancient Shivling atomic reactor in Australia. Nuclear physicists may also test the Australian and Saudi Arabian terrains to ascertain whether they reveal evidence of ancient nuclear destruction.

Hindu epics are replete with descriptions of the frequent use of fearful missiles. The very fact that they were used in such abundance proves that they were manufactured and stockpiled in large quantities as Russia and America are doing now. The parallel rivarly in the ancient world was between the Devas and Daityas as recorded in several ancient Sanskrit texts.

Rome too must have had an ancient Shivling reactor because Shiva worship used to be widely practised in Italy.

In India the Taj Mahal alias Tejo Mahalya being an ancient Shiva temple could very well symbolize the site of an ancient atomic reactor.

North of Singapore in Malaysia is a city called Petaling Jaya. That is the Sanskrit term 'Sphatikling Jayan' i.e. the big (huge) crystal Shivling. True to its name the ancient Shiv shrine has been located in archaeological excavation in the centre of the ancient city. The temple was invaded and razed by Arabs who converted the Malays to Islam.

Such famous Shiv shrines around the world as in Rome, Mecca and Petaling Jaya testify to the production of divine nuclear energy and the spread of advanced technology and scientific techniques during the Hindu dispensation in the ancient world.

The sacred 12 Jyotirling tradition now surviving in India could well be condensed national commemorative versions of a worldwide atomic technology of ancient times. Therefore researchers may examine the several aspects discussed here to determine whether nuclear technology believed to be very modern, is in fact very very

ancient.

Modern Energy Generative System Also Named 'SIVA'

In this context it may be noted that it is perhaps not mere coincidence but the thread of an incomprehensible continuity which has impelled the Department of Energy Laboratories, Livermore, USA to name their LASER beam generative system as SIVA because of its immense destructive as well as benefic potential.

It could even be that nuclear technology has been secretly evolved by Western scholars by laboriously decoding Hindu Shiv worship chants and diagrams carried away during British domination.

Hindu Vedic tradition lists five kinds of Shivlings corresponding to the five cosmic elements namely earth, space, water, wind and light. Whether they represented five different technologies of generating nuclear energy may be investigated.

The trident is Lord Shiv's traditional weapon. Whether it represents a three-pronged lethal-force may also be looked into. It could be that all such traditional details have an educative significance.

It is often argued that ancient technological achievements of the kind discussed above are either scientific fiction or were attained through spiritual magic but they couldn't have been the result of mechanical devices since archaeological excavations have not yielded any mechanical gadgets.

In this connection we would like to make several observations. Firstly, it may be realized that the 'mental eye' i.e. logic is far superior and far-seeing than the physical eye. What is deduced logically may not necessarily have a ready, physical illustration. Even man can, at any given moment, see around him only a very miniscule part of the world but that doesn't mean that the world consists of only what he sees. For instance, during daylight hours one can not see even a single star and yet those mighty worlds do exist in their millions. Even at night when one 'sees' them they look like mere sparks and not like the gigantic burning orbs

bigger than the sun that they are. Considering all this, logic is a better way of 'looking at' things than the physical eye.

It is also possible that bits of ancient mechanical devices actually came to somebody's hand but being in a very brittle, confetti condition or through lack of technological competence they escaped identification.

Many such possibilities have been discussed in this volume from time to time. Consequently lack of archaeological evidence must not be pressed as too strong an objection. Logic and the habit of history to repeat itself are some important guides to figure out the past.

♦♦

VEDIC SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL TEXTS

The current assumption that the history of human progress begins from the cave man stage is not true.

The Vedic concept is quite the contrary viz. that at the start humanity was invested with godly capabilities.

The other assumption that the history of human progress is a steadily rising graph also does not appear to be right. Because history must take cognizance of the Law of Fluctuating Fortunes which affects all human affairs whether of one individual, community, region or nation. Like the waxing and waning phases of the moon history follows a fluctuating course.

Equipped with this realization one has to take cognizance of past records and claims. Ancient Sanskrit literature is replete with references to wonder missiles, miracle rays, intersteller travel and astounding medical cures.

Since current history-books were written by persons with Victorian concepts they had hitherto dismissed those claims in ancient Sanskrit literature as mere imaginative fiction. But recent scientific and technological strides seem to be trailing the very tract of inventions which has been delineated in ancient Sanskrit texts. That should induce some rethinking. We may now have to revise our earlier chauvinistic view and be a little more humble and say that modern science has yet far to go to equal ancient achievements. In the medical science, for instance, treatment is getting progressively

more painful, expensive, tardy, snobbish and yet less and less curative. All a patient is promised is some theoretical consolation, some temporary palliative and at times amputation of the painful limb.

Some rethinking on ancient expertise in modern times in the field of science and technology may be traced to Krishanji Vinayak Vaze, born on 16th December, 1869. He took his diploma in civil engineering from the Engineering College in Pune (India) in 1891.

In an article contributed to the **Vedic Magazine** published from Lahore K.V. Vaze expressed surprise that in his entire engineering course there was absolutely no reference to any scientific or technological expertise of ancient India.

Consider the stupendous building projects of the ancient world from the Pyramids in Egypt, to the Taj Mahal and Konark in India, Borobidur in Java and Angkorwat in Cambodia. Carving whole mountains and creating artistically carved statues, halls, corridors and mansions out of them as seen at Abu Sibel on the Nile, at Bamiyan in Afghanistan and Ellora and Ajanta in India called for multilateral technological expertise. Ancient conduit water supply systems, strong stone embankments known as 'ghats' at riversides, towering temples, forts and palaces, bridges and towers exist all over India despite a thousand years of destruction caused by Muslim invasions. Yet no attempt seems to have been made to retrace that ancient expertise.

In a talk over the Madras station of All India Radio on February 17, 1945, K.V. Vaze observed "It is unfortunate that most of the research work done so far regarding ancient Indian architecture has been conducted on lines that miss, what I might call, the soul of the subject. A thorough knowledge of the ancient Indian languages, mythology and religion would be the first essential for any correct grasp of the subject" The said speech has been published in the March 1945 issue of the **Indian Concrete Journal**.

The notion that Indians knew geometry only to the primitive extent of brick-lining of an excavated pit for a sacrificial fire, or

that the knowledge of geometry originated because of the need for excavating a square firepit amounts to reductio ad absurdum.

The so-called sacrificial pit was itself an industrial and research laboratory fire-base of diverse specifications ranging from an ordinary fire to electrical ignition, atomic reactor and laser beam establishment. This is apparent from the achievements and range of products such as biological weapons, missiles and rays described in ancient literature.

Vaze made a pioneering study of that ancient scientific achievement and found that the traditional claim of 16 sciences and 64 technologies was a reality. The ancient Sanskrit text which classified them all was known as Bhrugu-Shilp-Samhita i.e. a technological compilation by Bhrugu.

The table of ancient Hindu, Vedic engineering prepared by K.V. Vaze is first divided into three heads namely, exploitation, distribution and manufacture.

Exploitation has three divisions viz Biology (of plant, animal and human life), Hydraulics and Mining.

Biology was divided into three branches namely, procreation, refinement and nurture.

The divisions of hydraulics were excavation, natural, built, supply and drainage.

The three classes of excavated hydraulics are ordinary wells, stepped wells and cisterns.

The two classes of built hydraulics are canals and tanks.

Flowing-water resources are sub-divided into-stoney, those with islands, deep pools and sandy reservoirs.

Mining operation branches were breaking, calcination, mixtures and separation.

Breaking operations had three groups - metals, boulders and slabs.

Calcination had two divisions-once burnt and twice burnt.

Alloys had four groups-brass, gun metal, German silver and nickel.

Metals had three groups-gold, silver, copper.

'Once burnt' had three divisions-bricks, glass, lime.

'Twice burnt' included - cement and metals.

The 'twice burnt' metals were grouped as - lead, tin, steel, iron and manganese.

The 'distribution' category was classified into-marine, communications and aeronautics.

The marine division branched into-rafts, boats and ships.

Communications were sub-divided as-roads, path-ways and streets.

Roads were sub-divided as-metalled, paved and dust tracks.

The 'manufacture' head was divided into-shelter, protective and townships.

'Shelter' was sub-divided into tents, huts, cottages and buildings.

The 'buildings' category was sub-divided into-sheds, quadrangles, houses, mansions and palaces.

The 'protective' group was divided into two groups-forts and coot.

The coot was sub-divided as - 'Krutak' and 'Aakar.'

The 'aakar' head is divided into - hamlet, village, borough, town, city, harbour and metropolis.

The 'town' category was split into civil and military.

Military structures were classified as - outpost, barrack, camp and cantonment.

The entire range of engineering technology was known as Samhita.

Its three branches-exploitation, distribution and manufacture were known as 'Khand' i.e. divisions.

The other groups dealing with biology, hydraulics, mining, marine, communications, aeronautics, shelter, protection and towns—were known as sciences. Their numerous sub-groups were known as Vidyas.

The last category was of 'arts' alias technologies.

A list of 400 ancient Sanskrit texts dealing with the branches of study mentioned above was compiled by K.V. Vaze. It appears on pages 16 to 20 of a book known as **Hindi Shilpashastra**, published by the Bharat Itihas Samshodhak Mandal, Pune-411030 (India).

Some of the texts listed in that publication are-Vishwa-medini Kosh, Shankh-Smruti, Shilpa-deepika, Vasturaja-vallabh, Bhrugu-Samhita, Mayamat, Maansaar, Aparajita-pruchha, Samarangana-Sootradhar, Kashyap-Samhita, Brihatparashariya-Krishi, Nissaraha, Shigru, Saurasookta, Aaraam Rachana, Manushyalaya Chandrika, Rajagriha nirman, Durgavidhan, Vaastuvidya, Yuddhajayarnava.

Of the 18 ancient technological Sanskrit texts available, Kashyap shilpam is believed to be the ancientmost. Its edition edited by K.V. Vaze was published by Anandashram in Pune. Its 278 pages comprise 88 chapters.

Another text is titled Aryashilpa–Hindi Yantrashastra (Publisher-Baalshastri Ravji Ksheersagar, Kalikaprasad Press, Pune-2). That booklet of 46 pages deals with mechanisms known as Bhooyantra Jala Yantra, Vayu yantra, Tejo yantra, and Aakash yantra.

These mechanisms bear the names of the five natural elements namely earth, water, air, cosmic light and space.

Incidentally even Shivlings are divided into the same five categories.

A Sanskrit text on warfare, titled **Praacheen Yuddha Vidya** (tenth publication of Sayaji Sahityamala of Baroda) has 14 chapters and 144 pages dealing with tactics, weapons, missiles, firearms etc.

Dr Prasannakumar Acharya has published an English translated and annotated edition of the **Maansaar Vastushastra** in seven parts. It was an Oxford University Press publication of Prayag. It may be obtained from the Superintendent, Government Press, Allahabad.

Another text titled Mantra-Chintamani by Chakradhar (published from Mathura and Varanasi) deals with mechanisms used in observatories.

The Vedic Magazine (Lahore) issues of October, November 1928 carried articles titled Study of Mechanics from Indian Engineering Books.

A volume titled **Yantras or Mechanical Contrivances in Ancient India**, by Dr.V. Raghavan has been published by the Indian Institute of Culture, Basavangudi,Bangalore.

Encyclopaedia Britannica, Vol 14 (5th edition, 1915) states "Needles were first made in England by a native of India in 1545 A.D. But the art was lost at his death. It was, however, recovered by Christopher Greening in 1560 A.D. who was settled........ in Bucks, where his manufactory has been carrying on from that time to the present day." But within about three hundred years the situation was quite the reverse and India had to import needles from Britain. Incidentally this also illustrates how fortunes fluctuate and communities once in the forefront of scientific, material or cultural achievement are pushed back and come to be classed as ignorant, primitive and stagnant.

India's skill in all kinds of manufacture, India's expertise in all sciences and arts, the excellent character of her people and India's immense wealth were once the talk of the world. But commercial and military invasions resulted in such plunder, impoverishment and enslavement that India soon became a country stalked with destitution, disease and death.

Mining

Some ancient Sanskrit texts on mining and minerals are titled Ratnapareeksha, Loharnava, Dhatukalpa, Lohapradeep, Mahavajra Bhairava Tantra and Paashaan Vichaar.

Professor R.N. Bhagwat of St. Xavier's college, Bombay has published a research volume on India's ancient skills in mining and metallurgy, titled **Metals in Ancient India.**

The International Institute of Sanskrit Research, Mysore has published an annotated edition of the ancient text titled **Narada Shilpashastram** on the same topic.

Some sample stanzas quoted hereunder from the ancient Sanskrit text titled (यन्त्रार्णव) **Yantrarnava** (literally The Ocean of Mechanics) will give the reader an idea of its contents. :-

दैर्घ्यचक्रैश्च दंतैश्च सरणिभ्रमणादिभिः ।
शक्त्युत्पादनं किं वा चालनं यंत्रमुच्यते ॥

यंत्रार्णव

The above stanza defines a machine as a contrivance which produces energy or creates movement with the help of a lever, pulley, toothed wheel or a ramp.

कस्यचित्का क्रियसाध्या, कालः साध्यस्तु कस्यचित् ।
शब्दः कस्यापि चोच्छ्रायो, रूपस्पर्शौच कस्यचिद् ॥
क्रियास्तु कार्यस्य वशादनंताः परिकीर्तिताः ।
तिर्यगूर्ध्वमधः पृष्ठे पुरतः पार्श्वयोरपि ॥
गमने सरणं पातः इति भेदाः क्रियोद्भवाः ॥

Samarangan Sootradhar
Chapter 31

The above lines classify the functions of different mechanical contrivances, namely.

(1) Some machines are for incessant repetition of a specific process.

(2) Some other machines operate at specific times or at fixed intervals.

(3) Some mechanisms are meant to produce a specific sound or relay or modulate it.

(4) Some machines are for specific jobs or to magnify or sharpen things.

The qualities necessary in an efficient machine are enumerated as under :

यथावद्बीजसंयोगः सौश्लिष्ट्यं श्लक्ष्णतापि च ।
अलक्षता निर्वहणं, लघुत्वं शब्दहीनता ॥
शब्दे साध्ये तदाधिक्यं, अशैथिल्यं अगाढता ।
वहनीषु समस्तासु सौश्लिष्ट्यं चास्खलद्गतिः ॥
यथाभीष्टार्थकारित्वं, लयतालानुगामित्ता ।
इष्टकालेऽर्थदर्शित्वं, पुनः सम्यक्त्व संवृतिः ॥

namely : (1) It should produce the necessary energy at the required time for its operation. (2) Ensure proper coordination. (3) Its working should be smooth. (4) The contrivance shouldn't require constant supervision. (5) It should be able to ensure uninterrupted working. (6) Its working should as far as possible be without stress or strain. (7) It should give out as little sound or make as little noise as possible. (8) At required intervals it may sound the necessary loud warning signals. (9) The machine shouldn't be shaky, loose or rattling. (10) It shouldn't stop or get stuck up while in use. (11) Its straps and other parts should be an integral part of the machine. (12) Its working should be continuous (without a break). (13) It should ensure the desired result. (14) The necessary turns or changes in the manufacturing process should be automatic. (15) Its processes should follow in properly phased sequences. (16) At the end of a process the mechanism should automatically resume its starting stance. (17) The process must not change the shape of the contrivance or tear away any part of the mechanism. (18) The mechanism should be powerful. (19) It should be easy and pliable. (20) It should last long.

Electrical Technology

Ancient Sanskrit terminology has several names for electricity obviously corresponding to different kinds of electrical energy. In that terminology the north pole is known as 'Mitra' and the south pole is designated as Varuna. Both together are referred to as Maitra-Varuni (मैत्रावरुणि). Oxygen was known as (प्राणवायु) Praan Vayu and hydrogen as (उदान वायु) Udaan Vayu. Helium too is Sanskrit.

The Agastya Samhita describes a copper-zinc battery. The 19th March, 1955 issue of a monthly magazine titled Shilp-Sansar quotes an extract from a research article by K.V. Vaze regarding that battery. That extract gives one a peep into ancient Sanskrit scientific and technological terms. An earthen beaker was known as ghritachi (घृताचि), a water-tight vessel was called 'apsara' and a battery cell was known as Kumbh. Consequently anything where hundreds of cells or chambers are crowded together was appropriately known in ancient Vedic Sanskrit terminology as Shata-Kumbh (शतकुम्भ) i.e. a hundred-cells. It is that same word which is spelled in modern parlance as catacomb. There the letter 'C' should retain its alphabetical pronunciation as 'see'.

Ancient Vedic technologists knew of six kinds of electricity viz.-

(1) Tadit - the one produced by friction from leather or silk.

(2) Saudamini - that produced by friction from gems or glass.

(3) Vidyut - produced from clouds or steam.

(4) Shatakoti alias Shatakumbhi - that produced from a battery of hundreds of cells.

(5) Hradini (ह्रदिनी) that obtained from storage cells.

(6) Ashani (अशनि) - the one emanating from a magnetic rod.

The above details suggest that the ancient world did possess a technology capable of manufacturing the numerous wonder missiles used in the Ramayanic and Mahabharat conflicts.

been known to exist all over the ancient world, e.g. at the Stonehenge in Britain, in Russia, India, in China and a number of other countries.

All ancient texts of any branch used to be in flawless verse helping easy memorizing and rhythmic recitation. That kept knowledge ready for instant use at the tip of the tongue.

Versified Texts

Experts in ancient Vedic learning were known as 'Kavi' (i.e. poet) as an equivalent of the modern doctorate, with greater relevance because besides acquiring expertise in their own branches of learning these persons not only learnt and taught all their lessons in verse but they could also expound their knowledge in new treatises composed in immaculate and mellifluous verse. That again is a unique and unparalleled feature of ancient Vedic, Sanskrit learning.

Ancient Vedic upbringing also demanded a strict moral, frugal, and stoic routine from everybody. Early rising, ablutions, yogic, exercise, psychological self-tutoring by repetition of vows regarding respecting elders, dedication to human service, adherence to truth and abstention from jealousy and avarice etc. etc. and early to bed. Vices such as wining and womanizing and consuming harmful drugs were ruled out. Avarice for wealth was kept out as a motivation for any action. Because of such rigorous standards socio-economic crimes were almost non-existant. People lived long, healthy and contented lives and life punctuated with gay, spiritual rituals amidst community comeraderie and convivality was very enjoyable without leading to any social strain and strife. Luckily life in Bali island affords a contemporary surviving illustration of a pious, happy Vedic society.

The Brahmin Qualification

Adherence to that impeccable standard of behaviour, devotion and dedication to studies, a commitment to lead a life of free professional service and an ideal daily routine were the four qualifications to get classed as a Brahmin irrespective of parentage. Thus Brahminism was not a congential badge but a standard of

behaviour, aptitude, abstinence and life-long commitment to un-paid, non-salaried community service in the chosen field. This is what is meant by Manu's celebrated maxim :- (जन्मना जायते शूद्रः संस्कारात् द्विज उच्यते). That is to say at birth everybody starts at the lowest level. It is only nurture, through which he may rise to the standards of behaviour, study, training and duties of the four groupings. Even an adult Shudra had to lead a life adhering to a basic social discipline beginning from say 4.30 a.m.

Such four-fold categorization with the same terminology namely Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra was adhered to by architects for grading stones, by veterinarians to classify dogs, horses or elephants etc. and in several other aspects of life. No stigma was intended. Among human beings one could opt for any of those four groups provided one was ready to strive for the standards of achievement, discipline and conduct expected of each. Life was equally exciting and exhilarating in all four categories depending on one's aptitude and adaptability. There was never a dull moment in any category nor was there any special allurement or mundane advantage in any of those four categories.

The Aeronautical Text

Some ancient Sanskrit texts on the manufacture and use of aircraft are extant. One of them is known as **Brihad Viman Shastra** i.e. the Great Compendium on Aeronautics. An annotated English edition of it is available. Five research scholars of the Aeronautical Division of the Institute of Science, Bangalore had examined it. Among the different kinds of aircraft mentioned in it they found that the one named Rukmi could fly by the process described in it. The rest were not quite intelligible. That is inevitable because the technical jargon of a bygone age must be obscure today.

In 1895 A.D. a scholar technologist, named S.B. Talpade had spent months rigging up an aircraft as per some ancient texts and arranged a public demonstration of it on the Chawpati sea beach at Bombay. The then British administration is believed to have hushed up the attempt by discouraging the pioneer flier and

bundling away his flying ensemble to some foreign country. That was much before the American Wright Bros. developed an aircraft in the early 20th century.

Vedic Mathematics

A former Shankaracharya of Jagannathpuri had composed a unique multi-volume work titled as **Vedic Mathematics.** He had entrusted it to someone for publication. As ill-luck would have it the custodian lost about 8 parts of it. Only the surviving single part is now available as a printed book. Even that solitary part is highly prized and praised by scholars. Some Western countries are imparting tuition on the basis of that Sanskrit text in their colleges and technical institutes. The book lists catchy and terse Sanskrit formulae for working out complicated mathematical problems. This is one indication of how a saintly scholar with his mind unhooked from mundane affairs and concentrating on the Vedas can unravel the terse codes relating to his own particular branch of learning. Another similar altruistic saint-scholar may make use of the same Vedic wording to unravel from it laws pertaining to his own special branch of learning. It is this magic of the wording of the Vedas which is being lost on all scholars. Mere mastery of academic Sanskrit is of no use in unravelling the hidden multi-channel, highly technical and tersely codified wording of the Vedas impregnated with master keys of all sciences and arts. Therefore, a scholar of Sanskrit doesn't ipso facto become a scholar of the Vedas. Fathoming the depths of the Vedas needs a special, detached, saintly, other-worldly mind.

Ancient Technology

Dr.A.W. Joshi, a physicist of Meerut University observed in an article "Charles Berlitz, an American writer has accepted the fact that there was technological development of the highest order in ancient India. His book **The Bermuda Triangle** (Avon Books, New York 1975) has been a best-seller in America. Particularly the chapter, " The Surprises of Pre-history " (purports to say) that the ancient Indian civilization may be several thousand years

old (of the order of 50,000 and not just 4000 years). A vast amount of ancient Indian literature such as the Vedas, Upanishads, Puranas, Ramayan and Mahabharat, was translated into German and English in the 19th century. At that time there was no technological development worth the name (in the Western world). Therefore, the reference (in ancient Sanskrit literature) to aircraft, rockets and missiles, different weapons which could produce fire, rain, storm etc. and different types of bombs were thought to be mere flights of fantasy. That translated literature led to several commentaries, books and analyses by European and American scholars of the 19th century, such as Maxmueller, Winternitz and Sir William Jones. The word thus spread throughout the world that ancient Indian literature contains more poetic imagination and less truth. The same line of thought was unfortunately taken up and developed by practically all famous Indian scholars and historians.

"Within a few decades, says Berlitz, the present age saw the development of aircraft, missiles and different bombs. The process is continuing till today. If in the light of present dvelopment, one reads the ancient Indian literature again it becomes clear that it is an excellent narration of true history and not merely poetic fantasy. One is stupefied to learn that even detailed descriptions of the manufacture of rockets and bombs, fuels to be used and the process of launching are given in the Mahabharat, various Puranas and elsewhere."

"In order to distinguish between fantasy (like that of Jules Verne about a century ago) and an account of true events, one has to put oneself in a similar position. For example, if a poet in a civilization which has never seen an aircraft were to compose poetry on air travel he could at the most say that the animals and trees looked smaller and write exciting lines about speed. But Berlitz quotes a dialogue between Rama and Sita when they were flying in the Pushpak Viman about the exciting sight at the horizon. Berlitz concludes that the observations made by Rama and Sita cannot be the result of poetic fantasy and can only come from the mouth of persons who have actually seen the horizon from

high-up. In a similar manner there is ground for strong belief that all other technological developments mentioned in ancient Indian literature are accounts of true history."[1]

Metallurgy

An ancient sage, Bharadwaj has a compendium on engineering technology, metallurgy, gems and a number of other techniques and processes. An account of these may be found in several publications titled **Sanskrit Wisdom, Sanskrit Civilization, Sanskrit Vistas and Diamonds, Mechanisms, Weapons of War and Yoga Sutras,** brought out by G.R. Joyser founder, International Academy of Sanskrit Research, Mysore.

As per information given in Joyser's volumes about Bharadwaj's text, ancient Vedists could make an alloy of three metals, known as Veerloha or for short just Veer. it was made by melting and fusing three metals known as Kshwinka, Arjunika and Kanta (i. e. magnet) in the ratio of 3:9:5. When fully processed it was totally resistant to fire, water, air, electricity, cannon, gun- powder and the like. It used to be strong, light and of a golden hue.

Panchamukha Yantra

A vehicle with five openings (in the four cardinal directions and on top). It weighed 170 Ratals. It used to run on electric power ferrying a weight of 1000 Ratals at 10 miles an hour. Its engine was known as Gaja, hence the vehicle was known as Gajaakarshana Panchamukha Yantra.

Mrigakarshan Yantra

These were vehicles driven with yoked animals.

Chaturmukh Rath Yantra

This was a mechanical vehicle with openings on four sides.

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(1) Article titled Technological Development in Ancient India by Dr. A.W. Joshi, Physics, Deptt. Meerut University, published in the annual research journal, 1981 of the Institute for Rewriting Indian History, New Delhi.

It weighed 120 Ratals. It used oil, preferably of coconut shells, for power generation or used electricity. It moved at 12 miles an hour. The term Rath Yantra is still used in Siam to signify a vehicle. But is pronounced as Rotjon.

Trimukh Rath Yantra

This wagon had openings on top, bottom and on one flank. It weighed 116 Ratals and ferried a weight of 600 Ratals. It was run on oil extracted from the knotted root of (सिंहक्रांत) Simhakrant and from the stalks of a kind of grass. Alternatively it could move with electric power.

Dwimukha Yantra

Weighed 80 Ratals. It had openings to the east and west. It moved on wheels fitted with screws. It moved at 6 miles an hour and pulled a weight of 300 Ratals.

Ekmukha Ratha Yantra

This had only one opening. It could move a weight of 200 Ratals. It moved with oil extracted from Kanchtoola seeds or Sowlaalika oil or on electricity. It moved at two miles an hour. These appear to be some sort of conveyor belts.

Simhaasya Ratha Yantra

This had the appearance of a lion, had two openings. It moved weights upto 75 Ratals. It could travel both on land and in air and could expand or contract.

Ayas Prasaran Yantra

It was a train travelling on rails.

Ex Chakra Yantra

Moved only on one wheel.

The other machines mentioned are Jrumbhak, Goodh Gaman, Wairajika, Indranee, Vishwavasu, Sphotanee, Kamath, Parvati, Koulayaka, Kootamalasya, Padminee, Taaramukh, Rohini,

Raakaasya, Chandramukha, Antaschakra, Ratham, Panchanaal, Tantrimukh, Veginee, Shaktyudgama, Mandal Asvartha, Ghoshanee (emitted poisonous gas as it moved. Its sound could be heard 144 miles away. People coming within its range died of gas-poisoning and by sonic shock. Those 16 miles away swooned), Ubhayamukha, Tridala, Trikoota, Tripeetha, Vishwamukha, Ghantaakaara, Vistrutasya, Kravyad, Shankhamukha, Gomukha, Ambaraasya, Sumukh, Taraamukh, Manigarbha, Vahinee, Chakraang, Chaitrak, Chanchuputa, Pingaaksh, Puruhoot, Ambareesh, Bhadrashwa, Virinchi, Kuladhar, Balabhadra, Shaalmali, Pushpak, Ashtadala, Souryayana.

These may be treated only as a few specimens of a very wide range of mechanisms invented and used by Vedic scientists and technologists similar to those which we use in our own times. The fuel used, the shape, functions and components of the mechanisms are described in most cases. In several cases the fuel is herbal juices or oil. Consequently the notion in some quarters that the wonder feats described in ancient literature could have been achieved by yogic, psychic, spiritual power is not warranted. All those achievements were possible through sophisticated mechanisms and contraptions developed through super-scientific skill.

The Ancient Gem Industry

Gems have been traditionally put to a number of uses. Apart from adding a sparkle to a person's attire and appearance gems were put to a number of industrial uses and were often pulverized or chemically treated for medicinal uses.

One of the ancient Sanskrit texts available on the topic is Ratnapradeepika (literally 'The Gem-Enlightener')

Its 16th chapter deals with pearls and groups them into 85 categories such as Rajamuktaphal - signifying the king among pearls or a pearl of the royal standard and status.

Diamonds were divided into four groups named Khanija (खनिज), Kulaja (कुलज), - Shilaja (शिलज) and Kritaka (कृतक) each having distinct

properties. The last category is of synthetic diamonds. The four types are designated to be of the Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya and Shudra standards respectively. The first three of the above groups subdivide their diamonds into 25 sub- categories. While the Shudra class diamonds fall into 26 sub-groups. All these together amount to 101 varieties of diamonds. The broad, common term used for all diamonds in these technological texts is Vajra (वज्र)

A specimen stanza from the technological text dealing with diamonds is as under :-

वज्राश्चतुर्विधा: प्रोक्ता शौनकादि महर्षिभि: ।
खनिजा: कुल्जाश्चैव शिलजा: कृतकाइति ॥
तेषां शास्त्रे वर्णजाति रूपभेदादय: क्रमात् ।
प्रदर्शिता विशेषेण स्वानुभूत्या यथाविधि ॥

Diamonds found in mica mines etc. were known as *Khanija* (खनिज) and those found in mud are known as *Kulaja* (कुलज). Those found in crystal mines are known as *Shilaja* (शिलज). The synthetic one was known as Kritaka *(कृतक)*.

Thus go the Sanskrit texts on and on naming varieties, characteristics, uses, processes and authorities on diamond extraction and processing. Exact processes for manufacturing synthetic diamonds are mentioned in detail and yet neither any governmental agency nor any private industrial house or academy seems to be making any use of these expert ancient Sanskrit texts. This is an indication of how ignorance of history leads to pauperism and destitution.

The Armament Industry

The armaments which Russia and America are known to be producing today in trying to outdo each other were also similarly competitively manufactured and marshalled against each other in ancient times by two world powers known as Devas alias Suras and Danavas alias Daityas alias Asuras. Those armaments and global navigation and instant communication capabilities and facilities have been recorded in ancient Sanskrit histories known as the Epics and

Puranas.

Ancient naval warfare is mentioned among the million-year-ancient Ramayanic happenings. For instance, Ayodhya Kand, Sarga 84, verse 8 reads :-

नावां शतानां पंचानां कैवर्तानाम् शतंशतम् ।
सन्नद्धानां तथा यूनां तिष्ठन्त्वित्यभ्यचोदयत् ॥

which means "Let hundreds of Kaivata youths stay on the alert, ready to intercept the enemy's navy."

The ancient Vedic science dealing with warfare and armaments was known as Dhanurveda.

Gunnery

In Ramayanic terminology guns were known as Shataghnis (literally 'killing hunreds') These are referred to in stazas 12,13, 16, and 17 of Canto 3, stanza 23 of Canto 4, last stanza of Canto 21, stanza 36 of Canto 39, stanza 54 of Canto 60, stanza 32 of Canto 61, stanza 68 of Canto 76 and stanza 22 of Canto 86.

The Shataghni (i.e.field gun) was made of iron. The Sundara Kanda describes a gun as resembling the trunk (or branch) of a huge tree. These were mounted on forts or were driven to battle-fields. They gave out a loud thunder-like sound. This description leaves one in no doubt that the Shataghni was a field-gun.

The modern term fire- arm is coined from the ancient Sanskrit term Agneyastra. A bomb or rocket when fired scattering a number of smaller bombs or rockets is mentioned in ancient Sanskrit literature. Europeans and Arabs and others to the west of India had been so long plunged in an age of darkness of ignorance since losing touch with Vedic expertise after the Mahabharat war, that a rocket was known to have been used in modern Europe only as late as 1807 in the siege of Copenhagen.

The ancient Astra-vidya of the Vedic scientists may be seen to be just emerging in the latest armaments that Russia and America seem to be threatening each other with.

The ancient astras annihilated enemy forces by impregnating different atmospheric layers with substances which caused suffocation. Those ancient astras could charge the atmosphere with electricity, water, fire, gas, smoke, disease-carrying germs and poisonous reptiles causing great loss and demoralization to the enemy.

Air-combat and electronically operated instant tele communication was also known to ancient Vedic science. Such wireless communication contact finds mention in the Ramayana when Ravan's brother Vibhishan circles in his air armada over Rama's field headquarters seeking permission to land.

Weaponry

The ancient Sanskrit text known as Agni Puran divides weapons into five classes viz. (1) Yantramukta i.e. those mechanically released (2) Panimukta those manually operated. (3) Mukta-Sandhaarita i.e. those which were thrust and withdrawn. (4) Amukta - those which are unreleased.

This being a very vast subject we will leave it at that. But the sampling given above should be enough to indicate that during ancient times all kinds of expertise from merchandise-manufacture and miracle-armaments to mystery yogic powers had been developed and cultivated. The great strides Europe and the U.S.A. seem to be making today are a repetition of ancient history.

Irrigation And Navigation

Irrigation and navigation constituted a branch of Vedic-sciences. K.V. Vaze has suggested that laws of this branch may possibly be imbedded in the stanzas of Yajurved associated with Vashistha's name. When Vasco de Gama set sail for India he employed a Hindu navigator to guide him from the African continent to the west coast of India.

The Roorkee treatise on Civil Engineering Irrigation Works in India (1910) mentions on page 4 "It is well known that the Egyptian irrigation system is founded in Indian practice" This indirectly proves that Egypt was a part of the ancient Vedic world when

the same Hindu technique was utilized in irrigation works all over the world. Seine (i.e. Sindhu) in France, Danube (i.e. Danav) in Germany and Jordan (i.e. Janardan) in the Arab lands have all had irrigation systems of great antiquity.

A British engineer Willcox who served in India under the British administration, has noted "Every canal which went southward, whether it has become a river like the Bhagirathi, or remained a canal like the Mathabhanga was originally a canal. They were lined out and dug fairly parallel to each other. They were spaced apart that canals could be placed. I remember quite well when I began to line out a system of canals for the irrigation of the country, I was astonished to find everywhere that a so-called dead river on the map was just where a canal should be placed."

The above extract vindicates the veracity of the Vedic legend that an ancient prince, named Bhagirath brought down the sacred Ganga from its sky-high Himalayan heights down to the plains and charted its course to the sea. That was a gigantic and spectacular engineering feat enough to astound the engineers and administrators of any age and region.

In 1800 A.D. Dr. Francis Buchanan made a survey of Indian agriculture and financial system on behalf of the British East India Company. His report published in three volumes is titled *Buchanan's Journey from Madras etc.* It was published from London in 1805. In that he observes "At Condaturu I saw one of those Hindu irrigation works for which South India was always famous. It was a large reservoir formed by shutting up with an artificial bank an opening between two natural ridges of ground. The sheet of water was seven or eight miles in length and three miles in width and was let out in numerous small canals to irrigate fields in the dry season....the reservoir could irrigate the lands of 32 villages during a drought of 18 months."

He adds, "On my way to Arcot I saw another splendid old Hindu reservoir, called the Caveri P.K. The reservoir is about eight miles long and three broad and fertilizes considerable extent of

country. I never viewed a public work with more satisfaction, a work that supplies a great body of people with every comfort which their moral situation will permit them to enjoy."

Likewise, in north India, Fatehpur Sikri, a magnificent picturesque, ancient capital of Sikadwar Rajputs (falsely ascribed to Akbar), was built on the banks of an artifical lake by damming the Uttan Ganga stream. Thousands of such irrigation projects serve as illustrious illustrations of the heights of excellence at which the Vedic science of irrigation engineering stood.

The Matsya Puran mentions 18 experts of different branches of engineering technology to be - Bhrugu, Atri, Vashistha, Narad, Maya, Vishwakarma, Nagnajit, Vishalaaksha, Purandar, Brahma, Kumar, Nandeesh, Shaunak, Garg, Vasudev, Aniruddha, Shukra and Brihaspati. Of these the text which deals with the construction of forts is known as Naarad Shilp-Samhita. A copy of it may be available at the International Academy of Sanskrt Research at Mysore.

Science of Warfare

Ancient Sanskrit texts on the science of warfare, written by Vashist, Vishwamitra, Jamadagna, Bharadwaj, and Oushanas have been published in the Punjab Oriental Series. Vaishampayan 's treatise is in the Madras Manuscript Library. Also available there is a treatise by Sharangadhar. Other known texts on the topic are Vikramaditya Veereshwariyam, Kodandamandan, Kodanda Shastra by King Dileep, Vaasturaja Vallabh and Brihat Jyotisharnava (of the Venkateshwar Press, Bombay). These are only a very few of the numerous Sanskrit masterpieces that exist and existed on the branch of learning.

It is on the basis of these texts that the training and education of princes and nobility of the ancient Vedic world (as mentioned in the Ramayan, Mahabharat and the Puranas) was conducted.

Students of ancient Vedic tradition are likely to be baffled by identical names of eminent sages, leaders and preceptors continuing in different ages several generations apart. For instance, one hears of sage Vishwamitra in the times of Harishchandra and again some

generations later during Rama's lifetime. The explanation is that these names (such as Shankaracharya, Vashist and Vishwamitra) continued to be assumed by every incumbent who succeeded to the respective Vedic hermitage-establishment.

Balloons And Parachutes

Since aircraft were known in ancient times, balloons and parachutes were also known. These contrivances are all inter-connected in every age and follow one another closely. Some sample references to these are quoted hereunder from an ancient Sanskrit technological text known as **Agastya Samhita.**

जलनौकेव यानं यद्विमानं व्योम्नि कीर्तितं ।
कृमिकोषसमुद्गतं कौषेयमिति कथ्यते ।
सूक्ष्मासुक्ष्मौ मृदुस्थूलौ ओतप्रोतौ यथाक्रमम् ॥
वैतानत्वं च लघुताच कौषेयस्य गुणसंग्रहः ।
कौशेयछत्रं कर्तव्यं सारणा कुचनात्मकम् ।
छत्रं विमानाद्विगुणं आयामादौ प्रतिष्ठितम्

The above stanza describes an aircraft as a vehicle moving through the air in the way in which a water- craft sails over water. The verse then mentions silk as an ideal material for balloons and parachutes because of its elasticity.

About balloons a sample stanza is as under :-

वायुबंधक वस्त्रेण सुबद्धोयानमस्तके
उदानस्य लघुत्वेन बिभ्यर्त्याकाशयानकम् ॥

meaning that one can soar in the skies with an airtight-cloth filled with hydrogen

Cords and Cables

Cords and cables required in ancient industry are described thus -

नवभिस्तंतुभिः सूत्रं सूत्रैस्तुनवभिर्गुणः ।
गुणैस्तुनवभिपाशो रश्मिस्तैर्नव भवित् ।
नवाष्टसप्तषड्संख्ये रश्मिभिर्रज्जवः स्मृता : ॥

The above stanza says, nine slender threads combine to form

a Sootra, nine Sootras make a Gana, nine Ganas make a Paash, nine Paash combine to make a Rashmi, and 9, 8, 7 or 6 Rashmi twined together make a Rajju alias Rope. In fact, the Sanskrit term Rajju came to be mis-spelled as Roppu in Europe, leading to the current spelling 'rope'. The above extract indicates some of the sizes of the cords and cables needed and used in ancient industry, aviation and telecommunication.

Air-tight Textiles

Air-tight textiles were made in ancient times with silk treated with extracts of figs, jack- fruit, mango, Aksha, Kadamb, three varieties of Myrabolane trees and of cereals. Silk thus processed used to be further dipped in a solution of sea-shell powder and sugar. Later these textiles were hung for drying. Some stanzas from the Agastya Samhita describing the above process are:-

क्षीरदु मकरंबाम्रा भयाक्षत्वग्जलैस्त्रिभिः ।
त्रिफलै देस्ततस्तद्वत्पाषपुषैस्ततः स्नतः ॥
संपम्य शर्कराशुक्ति चुर्णमिश्रित वारिणा ।
सुरसं कुर्वन् कृत्वा वासांसि स्रवयेत्सुधीः ॥

Batteries

How the ancient Vedic scientists made batteries by using copper and zinc wires is described in the following stanzas :-

संस्थाप्य मृण्मये पात्रे ताम्रपत्रं सुसंस्कृतम् ।
छादयेत् शिखिग्रीवेन चार्द्राभिः काष्ठपांसुभिः ॥
दस्तालोष्टो निधातव्यः पारदाच्छादितस्ततः ।
उत्पादयति तेन्मित्रं संयोगः ताम्रजस्तयोः ॥
संयोगाज्जायते तेजो यन्मित्रमिति कथ्यते ।
एवं शतानां कुम्भानां संयोगः कार्यकृत्स्मृतः ॥
सुसम्पृष्टा च सुभगा भूतयोनिः पयोधरा ।
मृत्कुंभी सर्वदा ग्राह्या

Motor

Such electricity produced from battery cells used to be known as 'Mitr'. Consequently the modern term 'motor' is a

malpronunciation of that ancient Vedic Sanskrit term 'Mitr'. Scientists specializing in various branches have to familiarize themselves with the scientific import of such terms to be able to split the Vedic scientific code to lead to great technological secrets. Currently what is happening is that theologists, metaphysicists, philosophers, spiritualists and moralists alone are treating the Vedas as their close preserve. This situation should change. *Every person interested in any branch of learning be it of the humanities, scientific or technological division may cull from the Vedas the highest principles, rules and secrets of his own branch of knowledge.*

Electroplating

The ancient Sanskrit text known as Agastyamat defines and describes the technique of electroplating as under :-

कृत्रिमस्वर्ण रजतलेपः संस्कृतिरुच्यते ।
यवक्षारमयो धानौ सुशुक्तजलसान्निधौ ॥
आच्छादयति तत्ताम्रं स्वर्णेनरजतेनवा ॥
सुवर्णलिप्तं तत्ताम्रं शातकुम्भमितिश्रुतम् ।
लिप्तस्वर्णपुटेन ताम्ररजतं तत् शातकुम्भं स्मृतम् ॥

Bibliography

A bibliography of such ancient Sanskrit texts on Vedic technology so far as they are known to be available for reference has been published in three volumes, titled **Catalogus Catalogorum** by T.Aufrecht.

Additionally mention of a number of Sanskrit texts on Vedic technology has been made in articles by K.V. Vaze and Major N.B. Gadre published in Shilp Sansar monthly.

G.G. Joshi of 273 Ramnagar, Nagpur has made a very painstaking list of all such literature and useful extracts which he readily and unreservedly supplies to all those who seek his help.

The tube railways that have been laid out through subterranean tunnels in Western countries have a Vedic precedent. In ancient forts and palaces of world, Vedic administrators such subways used

to be provided for the escape of besieged forces or for surprise attacks on the enemy or for undetectable communication and were known technically as Ghantapath-Vidya.

Most of the ancient mansions, forts, palaces and temples have such underground passages and caverns. For instance, the Kaba in Mecca (under Muslim occupation since Mohamad) has labyrinthine underground tunnels and chambers built in hoary antiquity when it was an international Vedic shrine of the reclining Vishnu. In November 1979 when a group of brave Mahadevi commandos made a surprise attack to recapture the shrine they held out for several days against heavy odds in those vaults and grottos.

In the Uttar Pradesh region of India in the city of Sambhal is an ancient Vishnu temple known as Harimandal which is under Muslim occupation and is being misrepresented as a mosque. There the perambulatory passage has been partitioned to make narrow living rooms and the wide entrance to the vaulted tunnel leading out of those precincts by a subterranean route has been walled up.

The palace at Tanjore in south India has such secret underground pathways too.

At Tanjore is the famous Saraswati Mahal library which has a voluminous collection of ancient texts of Vedic sciences and technology. The bibliography of a number of texts known as Up-Vedas published by the Library is known as Yamalashtakam and may be purchased.

A number of princely houses and establishments in India such as those at Darbhanga, Jaisalmer, Jammu and Nepal still have large collections of such valuable ancient manuscripts despite heaps of such texts having been burnt in their millions by Christian and Muslim invaders all over the world.

The Industrial Revolution in Europe began in 1835 A. D. precisely after such looted Sanskrit texts began to be available in translations to European entrepreneurs. To this day several Western countries

have offices in India whose business it is to scout for such rare technological manuscripts of Vedic knowledge and keep supplying them to Western academies, laboratories and industries.

The glory, utility and expertise of the ancient Stonehenge observatory in Britain has been similarly lauded by experts. Observation devices built in masonry are a peculiarity of ancient Vedic astronomy, seen in India and other parts of the ancient world.

Hundreds of ancient Sanskrit texts dealing with Vedic sciences and technologies though available in their thousands are languishing unattended, unrecognized and unstudied.

That expertise of the vanished civilizations illustrates once again the law of fluctuating fortunes namely that though Aztec, Maya, Inca etc. may be dead yet it would be wrong to deem them to be backward forest tribes. *Just as every generation has its captains and kings who become unknown on their death every age has its advanced communities who in course of time lapse into backwardness or total oblivion.*

Glories of Vedic Culture

The gossamer-thin muslin of Dhaka, the gold studded gorgeous, rich, colourful, royal sarees of Varanasi, the thin needles manufactured in England by an Indian, the massive and towering buildings standing all over the ancient world, the records of inter-stellar travels and inter-continental missiles, wonder-vehicles hovering on air-cushions or zooming through the skies, the orbitting statellites such as Trishanku, the wonder medical science of Ayurved, the mastery of the mysterious science of yoga, the administrative control of a united humanity throughout the world for millions of years and the propagation of a single universal language, Sanskrit are some of the unsurpassed glories of Vedic culture.

Public memory being proverbially very short, all such stupendous evidence has been ignored and forgotten. Moreover, just as an ancient thing is assailed by different pests such as ants, termites, spiders, bats and cockroaches, Vedic culture is often misunderstood and

misinterpreted by its detractors.

For instance, those addicted to heavy drinks and stupefying drugs often delude themselves into believing that the Soma juice revered and patronized by Vedic culture was also an inebriating drink or that Indian deities like Shiva are gratified by offerings of drugs and liquor. Such wayward talk misleads the masses because most of them being incapable of original thinking are in the habit of blindly following the multitude and adopting the unfiltered, unrefined majority view.

Vedic Common Man was Highly Knowledgeable

It may be noted that conclusions presumed to be the most advanced scientific discoveries of our own times were so commonly known to the ancients as to find expression in the talk of the most humble, poor, illiterate people.

For instance, only about a hundred years ago Europeans presumed our earth as the only planet in space sporting a human population. But Vedic parlance invariably refers to divinity as Lord of the uncountable millions and billions of other worlds.

Vedic tradition talks of a cycle of ages spanning 4320 million years. Correspondingly the dailies of 17th June, 1980 quoted Dr. Ponnemperuna, head of the Laboratory of Chemical Evolution, USA as saying that from clues found in Greenland his co-workers had concluded that "Life is as old as the oldest rocks on earth. The age of the earth has been estimated at 4.6 billion years. The conditions for life to emerge were almost there when the earth was formed."

How very close is 4.6 billion to 4.3 billion! Even that (comparatively) slight difference between the two figures must be debited to the unreliability of modern scientific conclusions which keep bubbling up only to be pricked and disproved by some new but equally ephemeral finding. The mistake, if any, is on their side because during the last 100 years Western scholars have been successively pushing back the antiquity of the world from 4004 B.C. to almost 4.6 billion B.C while Vedic-tradition has stood firmly

and unwaveringly by its one and only scientific conclusion about the time-span of our civilization.

Modern physicists have been talking only very recently of a man returning from space to earth after, what would seem to him to be, a very short duration finding several new generations to have been born on earth during that interval. Ancient Sanskrit scriptures record actual accounts of persons leaving on space sorties returning to earth to find all their contemporaries dead and gone and new generations taking their place.

American spacemen who made their first landing on the moon had been told that they would find a close similarity between the surface of the earth and the moon. They were proved wrong. Contrarily Vedic astronomy has since the hoary past maintained that it is Mercury which has broken away from the Moon while Mars was part of the Earth. Modern science has only recently discovered that Mars bears a close similarity to the Earth. But they have yet to learn of the structural kinship between the moon and Mercury though that has been long established from the dim past by Vedic sages.

The names of constellations like the Great Bear and Little Bear and Canis Major and Canis Minor are mere translations of ancient Vedic names. The name Canis is actually the Sanskrit term Shwan. The planet Jupiter is named 'Guru' which means 'large size' in Sanskrit, Vedic parlance. Therefore the fact that Jupiter is bigger than all other planets combined is a fact known to Vedic scientists from immemorial antiquity.

The Sanskrit name for Saturn is Shanaischar which literally means 'slow moving' And Saturn is indeed known to take $2^{1/2}$ years to cross each Zodiacal division which is much more than the 30 to 45 days taken by a number of other celestial orbs.

The Vedic Sanskrit name of one constellation is 'Jyestha' which means elderly. Its lustre is ranked 17th in brilliance but so far as the age of Jyestha alias Antares is concerned Patrick Moore observes in his book titled **The Story of Astronomy** that "Antares

is a typical giant (which) far from being youthful is approaching stellar senility."

In European lore the Moon's spots are said to look like a man with the hare. This too is of Vedic origin because according to Vedic tradition the moon's chariot is drawn by hares.

The very name 'Moon' is from its Vedic Sanskrit astrological significance. In Sanskrit 'mind' is known as 'mun'. And in astrology 'moon' personifies the mind of a person. That is why one who is mentally ill is known as a lunatic (meaning 'struck by the moon'). From this it may be seen that the seemingly European term 'moon' is the Sanskrit astrological and physiological term 'mun'. And the day named after the moon is Moonday alias Monday i.e. Munday. All this indicates how ancient Vedic tradition embodies infallible truths of the illimitable expanse of outer space and the starry firmament revealing a divine grasp of cosmic astrophysics.

The Cosmic Era

The sampling cited above of how astronomical conclusions of hoary antiquity hold good even today should induce readers also to admit the validity of the cosmic era as laid down by Vedic tradition.

At every Vedic ritual day in and day out, from the beginning of time, every worshipper has to summarize amongst his chantings the time that has elapsed since the last deluge upto the performance of the ritual. Thus an accurate time-tally is being maintained in an unbroken link throughout the past ages through verbal recitations by millions of mouths all over the world, of the number of years that have elapsed since the beginning of time. According to the divine, computerized automatic cosmic calculations which govern all life, each era lasts 4,320 million human years before the deluge wipes out the traces of old civilizations, as a pupil wipes his slate after an arithmetical exercise to begin another. This earth is thus a palimpsest. That is why it becomes difficult to trace the over-written, erased or superimposed history of the past ages.

In the current span of 4320 million years between two deluges

our generation is a little short of the middle point. Because according to the cosmic. Vedic calendar computation the current is the 1,97,29,095th' year of the cosmic era that we are passing through.

It is that cosmic era which used to be observed by all human beings throughout the world under the universal Vedic administration. But with the breakdown of the universal Vedic system other eras such as the Kali Samvat, the Yudhistir Shak, Vikram Samvat, the Christian era, the Shalivahan Shak, the Hijri San etc. came to be introduced from time to time.

Qualification Required To Start A New Era

According to Vedic practice only those rulers or administrators were entitled to begin an era in their own name, as part of the bigger cosmic era, who ensured that there was no citizen below the poverty line and no person living on borrowings. We may, therefore, safely conclude that the ancient rulers Vikramaditya and Shalivahan who promulgated eras in their own names had done so on passing the test mentioned above. Thus under Vedic culture every status had its own test of excellence. But that standard of excellence prescribed was something over and above the purity of behaviour demanded by Vedic tradition of every individual. Thus everybody from a Shudra to a Brahmin had to be astir from about 4-30 a.m to follow a routine of ablutions, cleaning the premises, bath, physical yogic exercise, recitation of vows about ensuring purity of conduct, taking cow's milk, abstaining from drugs and harmful drinks and then putting in a full day's social service as per one's station in life. Under Vedic practice there is no holiday as such because each day is full of rich, colourful, socially purposeful activity ensuring variety, gaiety, colour and interest. So there was neither boredom nor fatigue. Everybody worked incessantly every day of the year. There was no stoppage, no indolence and no waywardness. Each rising day brought in its train its own special activities and obligations as laid down by the Vedic calendar without life becoming a burden to oneself or to the society.

Ancient India Supplied Ships to the British Navy

The Sanskrit origin of the word 'Navy' alias Navi is a clear indication of India being the originator of navigation and ship-building. Consequently world naval fleets and merchant marines banked on India for the supply of passenger ships, goods-carriers and battle-ships.

Murray's Handbook to India and Ceylon (1891) contains the following information - In 1735 a vessel was built at Surat for the East India Company and an officer was despatched from Bombay to inspect it. Being much pleased with the skill and intelligence of the Parsi foreman, Lowji Naushirwanji....this officer endeavoured to persuade him to leave Surat and take charge of Bombay......From that day to this the superintendence of the (Bombay) docks has been wholly in Lowji's family.....In 1771 two grandsons of Lowji, Framji Manikji and Jamshedji Bahmanji entered the dockyard....They built two fine ships of 900 tons...Their sons succeeded them. Jamshedji in 1802 built the Cornwallis frigate for the East India Company and his success determined the Home Government to order the construction of ships for the Royal Navy at Bombay...In 1820 the **Minden-74** and **Cornwallis-74** of 1745 tons, the **Malabar-74**, the **Seringapatam** and many other ships of war were built, including the **Ganges-84**, the **Calcutta-86** and the Miami of 86 guns. All these vessels were made of teak....a teak ship will last from four to five times as long as one of English Oak. The old **Lowji Castle**, a merchantman of about 1000 tons is known to have made voyages for nearly 75 years.

The British ship Seahorse with Nelson (then only 16 years old) on board arrived in Bombay in 1775....Ships built at Bombay are not only as strong, but as handsome and well-finished as ships built in any part of Europe...The timber and plank of which they are built, so far exceeds any in Europe for durability that it is usual for ships to last 50 to 60 years (Ref:- Travels in Asia and Africa, by Abraham Parsons 1808, Longmans, London)

DRAVIDS THE LEADERS OF VEDIC SOCIETY

Dravids alias Druids were the leaders i.e. mentors, supervisors or administrators of the ancient Arya, Vedic, Sanatan, Hindu, culture throughout the world. And yet their great role has either been clean forgotten or completely misunderstood.

Shiva Samhita in Europe

In Europe tiny, isolated groups calling themselves Druids maintain an enigmatic secrecy about their organization and publications and come out once in a while in the open to pay public homage to the Sun on solstices and equinoxes in a quaint ceremonial. One very intriguing fact is that among their publications is listed a Shiva Samhita. Obviously that was an ancient Sanskrit text containing chants in praise of Shiva and possibly some secret formulae for generating power through nuclear fusion and fission. But now except for the title there is nothing Sanskrit or Vedic about it. The booklet perhaps contains some esoteric lines of the Druid ritual in English. This has been the fate of all ancient Sanskrit texts, including the Vedas, in Europe. For instance, in Scandinavia the name of the Vedas survives, though spelled as 'Edda', but the contents have all been changed. Edda still remains the ancientmost Scandinavian scripture but it is all stuffed with fairy tales in the local modern language instead of the ancient Sanskrit chants.

These two instances of the Shiva Samhita and the Vedas retaining their titles but losing their contents may be likened to an ancient

fruit found among historic ruins with its hard shell and shape intact but its kernel all shrivelled and dried up. Another analogy could be that of a snarling, leaping tiger shot in shikar, being stuffed in saw-dust and displayed in a show-case with its bones and flesh all scooped out and destroyed. All ancient Sanskrit, Vedic texts have met a similar fate in regions invaded and occupied by Christianity and Islam.

Along with those scriptures the Druids alias Dravids too got hounded out, rendering them almost extinct with the near-eclipse of the Vedic culture in Europe and West Asia.

But since Vedic culture alias Hinduism survives to a great extent in India, its intellectual leadership, the Dravids form an important and prominent component of Indian society.

But even in India, the Dravid community is enveloped in misconceptions because of a long spell of British rule when British educators either ignorantly or deliberately sowed dissensions among various sections of the Indian public.

The Absurd Arya-Dravid Conflict Theory

One sedulously ingrained misconception which has poisoned the minds of a section of the English-educated public is that Dravids are a separate dark-skinned, racial group which occupied the whole of India. They were invaded by some alien fair-skinned Sanskrit-speaking tribes known as Aryans. Because of their superior arms the Aryans drove the Dravids to the south of the Vindhyas while they remained content with occupying the north of India. Yet they adopted and admitted the Dravidian deity Shiva to the Aryan pantheon. Reciprocally the Dravids were infected with such a great liking for Sanskrit that they not only cultivated great scholarship in Sanskrit but they also adopted the entire Aryan way of life guided by the Vedic ceremonies from the antenatal to the post-mortem stage. So, we are made to believe, that there has existed between the Aryans and the Dravidians, since about 3000 years, a dual kind of love and hate relationship.

Nothing can be so absurd as the above theory. Every one of its postulates is baseless. That such an irrational doctrine should be believed in by a section of the English-educated Indian public illustrates the dangers of alien tutoring. It also exemplifies how people generally swallow thoughts, ideas and concepts fed to them instead of doing some original thinking. We shall, therefore, clarify the issue hereunder.

Aryans and Dravids are not Racial Groups

Arya is not a race. Arya is a Sanskrit word signifying a way of life which aims at elevating the individual soul through a disciplined life to godhood i.e. raising an atma to the mahatma stage and then to the Paramatma level. This is the aim and goal of Vedic culture. That is why it lays down strict rules of moral continence and discipline guided with regulatory sacraments beginning from the pre-natal stage and extending to the post-mortem. Anybody not prepared to live according to those Vedic standards of behaviour was dubbed an un-Arya. But that was not a permanent exclusion. With a 'prayaschitta' i.e. a sort of penitential reversal ritual he could be re-admitted to be once again an industrious and obedient member of the Vedic system.

Vedic Concept of Godhood

To comprehend the absurdity of the Arya vs. Dravid controversy, let us first understand the term Arya. The Vedas visualize divinity as all-pervading. Therefore every visible object or invisible element is considered to be a manifestation of divinity and is identified with the immanent godhead. Consequently Vedic culture sees one supreme godhead sub-divided into numerous manifestations in which each part or each deity represents the supreme godhead. Shiva is an integral part of that godhead. It is like one person being looked upon as the head of the family in his home, as husband by the wife, as father by the children, as boss by his emplyees, as a subordinate by his superior, as an uncle by his nephews and so on. Thus the same individual appears different in different capacities. The same is the Vedic concept of divinity. Therefore

all Vedic deities represent the supreme governing power of the universe. It is the same in State administration. From the lowest peon and clerk to the highest sovereign or president every bureaucrat is a link in the chain of supreme governmental authority. It is one single supreme indivisible authority percolating through its different components, appearing to be sub-divided, yet remaining undivided. Since divinity is all-prevading, it also exists in stones. Therefore worshipping divine idols for those with faith in them is a perfectly rational activity. Contrarily those who vehemently oppose idol worship are being unduly unreasonable in excluding stones, pictures and caricatures from the divine domain. Vedic culture on the other hand permits everyone full scope to pray and worship according to his or her individual faith. All that Vedic culture demands is be truthful, honest, clean and helpful in your dealings with others. When you do that your form of worship or non-worship and brand of theism or atheism are of no relevance or concern at all under Vedic culture.

Dravids were Administrators of Aryan Culture

The Aryan, Vedic culture described above pervaded the whole world from the beginning of time. Naturally it required a class of learned administrators of sterling character to be at the helm of affairs to be priests, preceptors, tutors, astrologers, judges, executives, mathematicians etc. That class was known as Dravids. The word is composed of two Sanskrit, roots viz 'Dra' i.e. 'Seer' and 'Vid' (विद्) the learned.

Consequently Dravids were and are masters of Sanskrit and of Vedic ritual. Dravids have all along been an integral and topmost part of Aryan Vedic culture. They proudly and aptly name their clinics as Arya Vaidyashala. Therefore all talk of Aryan and Dravids being antagonistic entities is absolutely irrational and unhistorical. Consequently Shiva has been an Aryan deity and Sanskrit has been the language of Dravids and there are so many fair and dark-skinned people among the South Indians as there are among the north Indians.

South India became a colony of Vedic sages alias Dravids from

the time that sage Agastya in the hoary past crossed the Vindhyas and established a number of education-cum-training centres of Vedic culture throughout peninsular India. Eversince South-Indians have been collectively called Dravids though even among them the Malayalees, the Kannadigas, Andhras and Tamilians have their own different languages and scripts. That they all and partly even Maharashtrians continue to be collectively grouped as Dravids despite their writing different scripts and speaking different languages indicates that they all belong to a common ancient fold of Vedic, Sanskrit centres in peninsular India. Another strong proof is their adoration of and firm adherence to the Vedic way of life.

The Other Misconception

Besides the above misconception about Arya and Dravid being rival groups, there persists an intra-Dravid misconception. Among the Dravids themselves the non-Brahmins have been made to believe (by ambitious persons wanting to be hailed as community-leaders by whipping up group sentiments), that the Sanskrit—learning, Veda-reciting Brahmins are an alien community lording it over on the non-Brahmins.

Under the Vedic system, Brahminism is a mere professional group like any other. Lord Krishna has said in the Bhagwad Geeta that the fourfold division of society is based on aptitude and work (चातुर्वर्ण्यम् मयासृष्टम् गुणकर्मविभागशः). Likewise Manu, the great law-giver has said (जन्मनाजायते शूद्रः संस्कारात् द्विज उच्यते) that by birth everybody is a Shudra (because he is uncultured) and only gradual training and teaching makes a person a Vaishya, Kshatriya, or Brahmin.

Here, it may be remembered that no group of Vedic society was a bed of roses. Each demanded high and stern standards of behaviour. The Shudra as a manual worker was enjoined to be physically clean. He was allowed to accumulate wealth. He had to discharge his social responsibilities and abstain from vices. A high academic standard was not expected of him. A Vaishya was expected to be good at farming, economics, mathematics and commerce, lead a very clean and healthy life with a daily bath

etc., charge only the admissible margin of profit and keep donating money for public charities throughout his life.

Higher standards of morality, cleanliness, bravery, patriotism, sacrifice and public service were demanded of a Kshatriya.

One who aspired to rise even higher (viz. to Brahminhood) he was not only to be adpet at the duties of all the other three classes but had also to be very abstemious. He must have no addiction. He must charge no fees for any service and must not possess any property. He must never lose his temper and never use arms to assault or kill anybody. Any lapse by a person of the Brahmin status attracted severer punishment. Thus the Brahmin status was hard to attain and sustain. It demanded life-long dedication to knowledge and social-service with total abstinence from vices, luxuries or rest. Considering all this Brahminism was not an imposition. It was an attainment.

The current caste-status has developed two major faults. What were intended to be professional groups such as carpenters, weavers, potters, blacksmiths, goldsmiths, cobblers etc. have turned into rigid castes leading to various kinds of touchability and untouchability. Secondly they have become birth-bound i.e. the father's status as a Shudra, Vaishya, Kshatriyaa or Brahmin attaches to his progeny, no matter what work he does or the norms of behaviour he follows. This being an aberration it is not going to last long. Caste and marriage restrictions are already crumbling because they are no longer based on ancient Vedic norms. In the modern world since getting rich quickest by any means seems to be the general ideal everybody is tending to be a Vaishya in outlook but Shudra in behaviour. It needs to be pointed out here, however, that in a well-regulated Vedic society even the Shudra, though mainly a manual worker, his standard of behaviour and social responsibility used to be very high because he was as much a component of Vedic society as the Brahmin. The difference was merely in the nature of their academic attainments, work and duties. The standard of behaviour of all was very high. In adherence to truth, in rendering service, in abstinence, in marital and monetary discipline and personal

and domestic hygiene everybody in the Vedic Society from a Shudra to Brahmin, observed meticulous standards. Dravids have been the upholders, guides, and monitors of that Arya, Vedic, Sanatan, Hindu way of life, which they still are. They have been known as Druids in Europe and Dravids in India. A lot of information of this fascinating group, which lies scattered and unknown, we propose to present hereunder, culled from different sources.

Asiatic Origin of the Dravids

Reverend Thomas Maurice observes "The Asiatic origin of the Druids had long been an acknowledged point in the world of antiquities. Mr Reuben Burrow, the great practical astronomer of India, was the first person, who after a strict examination and comparison of their mythological superstitions and their periods directly affirmed them to be a race of emigrated Indian philosophers."[1]

"These priests (the Druids), Brahmins of India spread themselves widely through the northern regions of Asia even to Siberia itself, and gradually mingling with the great body of Celtic tribes (Kalatoya people to the South of Kashmir) pursued their journey to the extremity of Europe and finally established the Druid that is the Brahmin system of superstition in ancient Britain. This I contend was the first Oriental colony settled in these (British) islands."[2]

Hereunder we propose to reproduce for the readers' information some relevant passages from a book titled - **A Complete History of the Druids - Their Origin, Manners, Customs, Temples, Rites and Superstitions with an Inquiry into their Religion, And its Coincidence with the Patriarchal,** Lichfields, printed by and for T.G. Lomax; and sold by Logman, Hurst, Rees, and Orms, London 1810.

On the backside exterior of the cover is the sketch of a bearded old man with feet bare below the knees, wearing a loose, knee-length

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(1) P. 483, Vol. II, ASIATIC RESEARCHES.
(2) P. 246, Part I, Volume VI, Antiquities of India, Rev. Thomas Maurice.

gown, holding an open book in the right hand and a staff in the left, a length of cloth slung over the shoulders - almost like a Vedic sage that one would envisage.

The Introduction refers to stone relics of old such as the PILLARS, the CIRCLE and the SERPENT seen at several ancient sites throughout the world and adds "the Romans brought with them the use of covered temples, and on the perversion of the inhabitants, these open places, in all probability, were entirely neglected if not partly demolished. They were to be destroyed in the Land of Canaan, because they had been abused there, but how far, the Israelites were forbidden to set up any more will best appear from the precept itself. Levit, XXVI - 1. 'We shall make you no idols nor graven images, neither shall you put up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it, for I am the Lord your God.'"

The above details will scarcely be understood by any Western scholars because the details referred to therein are unfamiliar to them.

Krishna Statues

Canaan is Lord Krishna who is known as Canha (also spelled as 'Kanha') in India. His temples in Europe and West Asian regions (in pre-Christian times) had pillars in front. Behind them were icons of Lord Krishna alias Vishnu. Both those deities are shown sheltered by huge multi-hooded cobras. Lord Krishna vanquished a cobra, called Kaliya in the Yamuna river and danced triumphantly over his head. God Vishnu is shown reclining on the coils of a multi-hooded cobra. In both cases either the entire divine figure riding the cobra is framed in a circle, or a circular halo is depicted illuminating the divine face. In the ancient Vedic world icons of these two deities were commonly raised all over. That explains the reference to the pillars, serpent, circle and the land of Canaan. The term Israel is a truncated form of the Sanskrit term Iswar-alaya meaning "the abode of God." Canaa alias Krishna was the God of the Yadus i.e. Judaists alias Jews. Formerly Jews used to raise idols of Lord Krishna and worship them but later the practice was

discontinued for several reasons viz. (1) Since the Jews had to move from country to country, carrying stone images became impractical. (2) The enemies of the Jews used to desecrate the idols to spite the Jews. (3) As people of Vedic culture Jews also raised images of various other gods and goddesses. These, they were afraid, could lead to rival cults and disunity. For all such reasons the Jews decided to give up idol-worship. Otherwise the Jewish mind is not opposed to idol-worship unlike that of the Muslims.

"This serpent was the symbol of light and wisdom, of life and health, amongst the Eastern nations, the Indians, Persians, Babylonians, Phoenicians, Egyptians, Grecians and .... even amongst Peruvians... its name was Seraph."[3]

The term 'Seraph' is obviously the 'Sanskrit' word 'Sarp', spelled as serpent in Engl..h. Both the Sanskrit word Sarp and the idol of the cobra were familiar all over the ancient world. The qualification that only "Eastern nations" looked upon the serpent as a divine symbol is unjustified when the named nations include both Greece and Peru. And since the entire European civilization stemmed from Greece it should be apparent that if the cobra had a divine significance in Greece it had the same significance all over Europe too.

The cobra has other significance too in Vedic culture. In astrology and astronomy the nodes of the moon are symbolized as the head and tail of the time-serpent. In the science of Yoga the chain of centres of energy from the base of the spinal column to the cerebrum, is likened to an energy serpent. Statues of Egyptian Pharoahs have a coiled cobra figure stuck in the centre of their foreheads. Statues of Vedic deities are often shown sheltered under the hood of a cobra. Therefore, all allusions to cobras in sacred context should raise presumptions of a Vedic connection.

The Israelites used to burn "incense to (the cobra) even

(3) P.9, A Complete History of the Druids.

in the days of Heyekiah. This indicates that the cobra, an important Vedic symbol, has been revered all over the ancient world. Towards the end, the introduction to the book **A Complete History of the Druids** also asserts, referring to the cobra in the Adam and Eve temptation story, that "be it remembered over again that it (the cobra) had no concern in the fall of man."[4]

The book opens its account of the origin of the Druids (page 15) stating "It may rationally be concluded from the various opinions of best historians, that this British island received its first inhabitants from the eastern parts of the world soon after the flood."[5]

Earlier in this chapter we have seen how Thomas Maurice and Reuben Burrow had concluded that the Druids of Britain were Brahmins from India. This fully confirms my finding that the Druids of Europe were Dravids, i.e. sages and seers of Vedic culture from India. And the Chola people of South India do indeed have a settlement in Scotland named after them as Chol-mandal- alaya (चोल-मंडल-आलय) currently spelled as Cholomondeley but pronounced only as Chumley. The modern-day British, finding it difficult to articulate the entire original Sanskrit term have conveniently abbreviated its pronunciation to "Chumley." Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia too is the Sanskrit term Cholanampuram (चोलनंपुरम्) i.e. city of the Cholas which indicates an ancient Chola world empire.

The book further states that those people from the East...."Conquered many nations and became possessors of almost the whole continent of Europe.... (and) who in all probability, came first to inhabit and people the north of this island (i.e.Britain) 700 or 800 years after the flood . Here then we find a very emphatic and clearcut statement that the (Vedic) civilization in Britain is almost as old as the flood. And Manu was the progenitor of the post-flood world. This is apparent from the word 'man' which indicates two things namely a being descended from Manu, and a person endowed with a 'mun' (a Sanskrit word) i.e. 'mind'.

(4) P.12, A Complete History of the Druids.
(5) P.16, Ibid.

The term humanity is also the Sanskrit term Su-man-iti i.e being endowed with a good, complete (full-fledged) mind. The 's' is often substituted by 'h' as the term semi-sphere is spelled as hemisphere.

The above-quoted extract fully vindicates the main theme of this volume namely that soon after the flood (whenever that event may have occurred-whether thousands, millions or billions of years ago) the Vedic civilization was ushered once again all over the world including the British Isles.

Incidentally this also corroborates the rule enunciated by sage Vyas in the Mahabharat (which we have quoted elsewhere) that at the end of an era (marked by a flood, fire, war, or similar holocaust) lost Vedas and history reappear through the minds of gifted people.

The book further says "About 500 years before Christ, according to Siry, two large colonies were sent out of that country (i.e.Gaul namely France, the country across the channel from Britain) the one to Italy, and the other to Germany by Ambigalus, who then governed it."[6]

This information carries us a little further by informing us that the civilization which existed in France, Italy and Germany was pre-Christian.

Page 18 of the book **A Complete History of the Druids** refers to Devonshire. That is the Sanskrit term (देवनेश्वर) Devaneswar i.e. Lord of the Gods.

On page 20 of the book, referring to an ancient Greek landing in Britain states "the places where the Greeks first landed are generally thought to be the two islands Man and Anglesey". Those two names are again Sanskrit. The island of man is named after Manu. It may be noted in this context that English spellings have very often omitted the last vowel of the Sanskrit pronunciation. For instance the Sanskrit word 'widhwa' विधवा is spelled only as

(6) P.16, Ibid.
(7) P.20, Ibid.
(8) P.21, Ibid.

'widow'. The last 'a' has been ignored. Likewise in the term Manu the last vowel 'u' is dropped and the island is named 'man'.

The other term Anglesey is the Sanskrit term आंग्लेश: Anglaish, i.e. the Lord of Angul country. That island was so named because on it was erected a huge sculpture of Lord Vishnu (the immanent divinity) reclining on the coils of a huge cobra.

We are further informed that in pre-Christian times "the Britons and Gauls (i.e. Frenchmen) having properly, but one and the same religion, resorted to public seminaries, wishing to be better instructed in the learning and religion of the Druids, who went over every year to assist at the religious ceremonies of the Gauls."

Here we have another indication that the Druids were priests conducting Vedic ceremonies in France and Britain and for this they used to cross the channel as people do even today. Consequently the trafic between England and the rest of the continent continues from the remotest time. The reference to seminaries clearly implies the existence of Vedic schools. Thus the Eton and Harrow tradition of Britain originates in the ancient Vedic school system where children had to live in the Guru's hermitage for over 12 years. This also explains how in ancient times Britain and France were united under a common Vedic culture. The current 12-year schooling continues that ancient Vedic term.

"The Druids must have been there very early since persons of indisputable learning have thought them to be of British origin. But this opinion has been refuted...Dr Stukeley says, they first made their appearance from the eastern parts of the world about the time of Abraham."[9] This too is a very significant observation. We have shown elsewhere that the Druids as Vedic-administrators and supervisors were trained in South India to be deployed on duty in the rest of the world. It is because of that South India has been known as the Dravid region. In course of time the term Dravid was mistaken to be that of a race. But that it is not

(9) Pp. 21-22, ibid.

a race, will be apparent from the fact that in our own times South India is a region inhabited by people who speak different languages and write different scripts. Yet their common characteristic, which made them Druids was their expertise in Vedic culture and Sanskrit language.

The Bard Tradition

Ancient Vedic Kshatriya administrators had in their employ traditional singers and poets who were known as Bhaat and Bard. It is those same words which continue to be used in English as Poet (a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit word 'Bhaat') and Bard.

To those who might feel preplexed we would like to explain that King Prithviraj's court poet, Chand was known as 'Bardai' which is spelled as 'Bard' in English. The continuance of this poet alias bard tradition in Britain is one very significant proof of Sanskrit-speaking Vedic Kshatriyas having ruled over the British isles in ancient times.

We are told that "this custom (of employing bards i.e. poets) originated in the east where it was practised from the earliest period. It was communicated to the Greeks, and afterwards to the Latins. The ancient Greeks had not only the whole body of their divinity in verses but upon all occasions, as marriages, funerals etc., their religious rites and ceremonies were performed in it; likewise upon occasion of some great deliverance or remarkable victory, they sang the praises of their gods, composing odes and hymns, which they released to the people, in a solemn manner with music."[10]

That tradition continues in every region of India even now. Its continuance among Greeks and Latins shows that they too were part of the Vedic world.

"The Bards were also very much given to composing genealogies and rehearsing them in public assemblies...Homer mentions Demodocus and Veisses, as celebrated bards. The bards, who hitherto

(10) P.23, ibid.

were only religious and whose compositions were used in the most solemn rites degenerated by degrees, into the nature of common ballad-makers, and from singing of the essence of the immortality of the soul, the works of nature, the course of celestial bodies, the order and harmony of the spheres, the praises of the Gods and rehearsing the virtues and actions of great men which was considered necessary to stimulate and encourage the people to great enterprises; became the divulgers of idle and empty genealogies, more for gain than for the advancement of virtue, and afterwards gave themselves up to composing mystical rhymes, abounding with prophecies of things to come, to charms, spells, incantations, the art of magic and necromancy, that they had sundry verses to that purpose which were of wonderful power and energy "[11]

The above description applies to the institution of bards all over the world even in their uniform and steady degeneration which again proves the existence of a uniform Vedic culture all over the globe.

The book on Druids further informs us that the Druids jealously guarded their learning and tradition, which were unintelligible to the common people, "none could have recourse to them, but persons of repute and learning (and) nothing was permitted to be taken away in writing."[12]

The characteristics mentioned above apply only to Vedic learning. And actually in Germany there is a region known as Vaitland (i. e. Veda land). And statues of six sages and a (Vedic) temple were discovered there. This point is dealt with in some detail in our chapter on Germany.

"The religion of the Druids flourished a long time, both in Britain and Gaul (i.e. France). It spread as far as Italy, as appears by Augustus's injunction to the Romans, not to celebrate its mysteries."[13]

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(11) Pp. 23-24, ibid.
(12) Pp.26-27, ibid.
(13) P. 27, ibid.

To mention European countries singly and state that Druidism (alias Vedic culture) pervaded this country and that country is not proper. It is better to recognize that the whole of pre-Christian Europe was imbued with Vedic culture. For instance, we are informed by the same book on Druids that "a female Druid of Tungria (the late bishopric of Liege in the Netherlands) had foretold to Dioclesian (when a private soldier in Gallia) that he would be Emperor of Rome."[14]

This indicates that in the Netherlands too in pre-Christian times Vedic culture and Sanskrit language held full sway. Since astrology forms part of Vedic studies, the Druids, who were Vedic priests, had foretold the elevation in the status of Dioclesian.

"The government of the Druids was universal over the whole island.... there was but one chief.... to whom they had recourse in public meetings and assemblies...The primate of these Druid priests was a sort of Pontiff....The Druids were held in such veneration by the people, that their authority was almost absolute....They claimed a power of excommunication...They were made judges of all controversies both private and public...the Druids were exempted from the services of war, and paid no taxes as the people did...Some of their maxims may serve as a specimen....

"None must be instructed but in the sacred groves."

"Mistletoes must be gathered with reverence and if possible in the sixth moon....It must be cut with a golden bill."

"Everything derived its origin from heaven."

"The Arcana of the sciences must not be committed to writing but to the memory."

"Great care is to be taken in the education of children. The powder of mistletoes make women fruitful. The disobedients are to be shut out from sacrifices. Souls are immortal."

"The soul after death goes into other bodies."

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(14) P.27, ibid.

"Children are to be brought up apart from their parents till they are fourteen years of age."

"The moon is a sovereign remedy for all things. Let the disobedient be excommunicated...."[15]

All the information quoted above points solely to Vedic culture. The guiding tenets are precisely the ones which are peculiar to Vedic tradition.

The collection of herbal remedies during specific phases of the moon is a common Ayurvedic practice.

The term Mistletoe is a garbled spelling of the Sanskrit word Somalata, i.e. the Soma creeper whose leaves and juice were widely used by sages in Vedic rituals because of their remarkable medicinal uses such as rejuvenation, prolonging life and rendering sterile women fertile. The immortality of the soul and its migration from body to body in an unending life-cycle is the very corner-stone of Vedic precepts.

The Druids had periodic (Vedic) sacrifices. They had astronomical observatories. Staffordshire used to be formerly covered with a large forest designated as Cannock or Cank. That is the Sanskrit term Cannan (also spelled as Kanan) signifying a forest.

"Both the Greeks and the Romans....were fond of the number three, as being the next odd number to unity...This doctrine came originally from the children of Israel...if the word Elohim does reelly comprehend the idea of a trinity."[16]

The universal spread of the Brahma-Vishnu-Mahesh Vedic trinity concept is yet one more proof that Vedic culture was mankind's primordial inheritance.

"The strict life of the Druids....had rendered them...more valuable than others...They were sequestered from the cares of

(15) Pp. 28-31, ibid.
(16) P. 35, ibid.

the world, men of upright and moral conversation....They taught and discoursed nothing but virtue and piety. Their solemn assemblies were all concerning the principles of divinity, morality, the immortality of the soul, and the world to come, the study of astronomy and philosophy, as well as that of natural religion, the perfect education of youngmen, and those who had not been instructed by them were not esteemed sufficiently qualified to manage the affairs of state."[17]

The Druids "had a herb called Samolous... (obviously Soma-rus) in gathering which they used ceremonies: first, they were fasting, secondly they ought not to look back during the time of their plucking it... and lastly they had to use their left hand only..... This herb so gathered was esteemed of sovereign virtue in the cure of all diseases in swine or cattle. The high antiquity and universality of sacrifices, bespeak it originally a divine institution....penitence and purification were necessary attendants; nor was an invocation in the name of Jehova, the great propitiator, at this time wanting."[18]

The Vedic Trinity

"The Canaanites... had, before the arrival of the Israelites in their country after the Exodus from Egypt, introduced the worship of graven images."[19]

The Canaanites derived their name from God Kanha alias Chrisna. They, therefore, carved idols for worship as per Vedic practice.

"The first generations of man had neither temples nor statues for their gods, but worshipped towards the eastern heavens in the open air, and sacrificed upon the summits of the highest mountains...very high mountains being commonly held sacred to Saturn or Jupiter, and sometimes to Appollo...all sacred places, even those where there were no trees were called groves."[20]

(17) P.37, Ibid.
(18) P.40, Ibid.
(19) P.43, Ibid.
(20) Pp.44-45, Ibid.

"Many persons are of opinion, that the religious principles of the Druids were similar to those of the Gymnosophists and Brahmins of India, the Magi of Persia and the Chaldeans of Assyria, and therefore to have the same origin.

"The Gymnosophists were philosophers who went naked, and lived solitary and austere lives in caves, woods and deserts, feeding on herbs and for a time abstaining from carnal pleasures. They were also called Brahmans...i.e. of Brachman or Bramba, the prescriber of their rites or laws. They were very learned men held in great reverence by the people and had a strong idea of the Trinity.... *Ist Bramba, by this He created the Universe, 2nd Breschan, by this He preserves it, 3rd Mahaddia, by this he will destroy it.*

The Vedas

" *They pretend to have received four books from Bramba, in which books all knowledge is comprehended;* they acknowledge the metapsychosis or the transmigration of souls, through several human bodies and beasts, before they can arrive at pleasure and being purely spiritual; and for this reason they teach that it is not lawful to kill, or eat anything that is killed and none of their tribes do eat any but their soldiers.... They instituted public feasts and sacrifices upon set times of the moon....though they had a fixed number of gods, yet in many particular places the people had private and tutelar gods, whose denominations extended not beyond a hill, river, fountain or spring. Jupiter was worshipped under many names...we read of above 300 Jupiters and each nation seems to have had one peculiar to itself... He was particularly called Taramis, viz. Thunderer, and Thor in the north which name also signifies thunder and from which is derived Thursday...The Swedes, Germans and Saxons worshipped him in the same manner as do Britons and Gauls....Druidical temples were laid out in such figures as were hieroglyphical and were intended to describe the nature of the divinity, as the Circle, such is that of Stonehenge, or the Circle and Seraph, or winged Serpent, as that of Abiry...such was this wonderful work of Abiry; than which a grander and more extensive design scarce

ever entered into the imagination of man and which, when in perfection was without question the most glorious temple of the kind which the world has ever heard of...it was really a temple sacred to the ever-blessed and undivided trinity...the Mighty ones; of whom the whole was an emblematical representation."[21]

The above extracts clearly prove that in various regions of the world there existed a uniform culture which was administered by a priestly class known as Dravids alias Druids. They believed in one divinity pervading all objects. That divinity was represented by the trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Mahadev. Temples of these deities existed all over the world amidst shady groves. That the soul passed through several bodies in different births before it attained salvation. That their culture was rooted in four books of wisdom and administered by Brahmins. All this description leaves no room for doubt that that universal culture was the Vedic way of life and that it existed from the beginning of time.

The Celtic alias Keltic people of ancient Europe "were subject to an authoritative body of Druids, or priests, who framed and enforced laws for the benefit of the community."[22]

"The Kingdom of Kent (in Britain) was founded by the Jat brothers. Both the people of Kent and of the Isle of Weight are the offspring of the Jats."[23]

The Jats are a Kshatriya clan from India. From the reference quoted above it is clear that the Jats formed part of the Indian personnel who had spread abroad to administer Vedic culture as per the Vedic maxim "Krunwanto Vishwam Aryam" which was a motto for extending culture and civilization to every region of the world.

"These (British) Islands appear to have been colonized by

(21) Pp.49-59, ibid.
(22) P.16, Matter, Myth and Spirit or Keltic Hindu Links, by Dorothea. Chaplin, F.S.A Scott Rider & co. London, 1935.
(23) P.113, ibid.

the Druids....great Druidical sanctuaries were established at various spots in the British Isles and in Brittany, the chief of which seem to be at Avebury, Stonehenge, Woodhenge , Malvern, Mona in Angelsey, Tara, Iona, Callernish in the Hebrides; Stennis in the Orkney Island, and at Carnac in Brittany.''[24]

The Dravids alias Druids thus exercised complete control over the Vedic society of ancient Britain.

The Dravids who spread over the world to administer Vedic culture were not all Brahmins. They included people of all the four Vedic categories. Therefore the current unhealthy political trend in South India to look upon their Brahmin class as an alien graft is unhistorical, improper and unjustifiable.

People of every province in India had all the four classes of people. The four classes were professional divisions and not castes. There was a certain fluidity about them. With proven merit and dedication one could be a part of another class. Conversely, demerit and discredit also entailed expulsion from a particular class.

This is apparent from Dorothea Chaplin 's observation that ''the Dravids were Kshatriyas and all Kshatriyas were Aryas...Manu in verse 43-44 of the tenth chapter of the Samhita designates ten Kshatriya tribes as Vrishalas, among whom are the Dravidas.''[25]

''As a class the Druids take no active part in war, and pay none of the ordinary taxes for that purpose; not only for direct military services, but from other State burdens also they are exempt. Through the attractions held out for such a career no less than from private choice, *large numbers join the priesthood, and are sent by their parents and relatives to undergo the necessary training. In their schools they are said to learn by heart an extraordinary number of lines, and in consequence, sometimes to remain under instruction for as many as twenty years....With regard to their actual course of studies, the main object of all education is, in*

(24) P.115, Ibid
(25) P.154, Ibid.

their opinion, to imbue their scholars with the indestructibility of the soul, which according to their belief, securely passes from one tenement to the other... Subsidiary to the teaching of this main principle, they hold various lectures and discussions on astronomy, on the extent and geographical distribution of the globe, on the different branches of natural philosophy and on many problems connected with religion. The Druids were a privileged class, there were three departments, the chief of which was that of the priests and law-makers... *In ancient days the Druids in North Wales had an important settlement at Mona in Angelsey where a great number of pilgrims used to resort to receive instruction.*''[26]

The above details about the belief and practices of the Druids make it clear that they were Dravid people from India who guided and exercised supervisory control over the whole contemporary European social structure.

Ex-Communication

The well-known Roman general Julius Caesar has in his memoirs also referred to the Druids. He writes ''Everywhere in Gaul two classes only are of any account.... One of the two classes consists of the Druids, the other of the knights. The former officiate at the worship of the gods, regulate sacrifices, private as well as public and expound questions of religion. Young men resort to them in large numbers for study and the people hold them in great respect. They are judges in nearly all disputes... They settle the matter and fix the awards or fines. If any litigant, whether an individual or a tribe does not abide by their decision, they ex-communicate the offender...Persons who are under such a sentence are looked upon as impious monsters, everybody avoids them, everybody shuns their approach and conversation, for fear of incurring pollution. If they appear as plaintiffs, they are denied justice, nor have they any share in the offices of State. The Druids are all under one head, who commands the highest respect among the order...The Druids hold an annual session on a settled date at a hallowed spot in the country of the Carnutes....the reputed

(26) Pp.179, 183, Ibid.

centre of Gaul. All litigants assemble here from all parts and abide by their decisions and awards."[27]

The Druids and the Knights referred to above are obviously the Brahmin and warrior classes of Vedic society. Both are Sanskrit words, since Druid means 'sage and seer' while the knight is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit word 'Nayak' (alias Nike) i.e. a military general.

The description of the Druids left by Julius Caesar is of the decades just prior to the beginning of the Christian era, yet that same description applies four-square to the Dravids of South India, and in fact to all Hindus throughout India even of the 19th and 20th centuries. Strict ex-communication was imposed on violators of social taboos.

Karnavati In France

The area Carnutes in France is obviously the Sanskrit name Karnavati. Ancient India too had hallowed cities of that name.

Papacy

The head of the Druids mentioned above was obviously the Vedic priest living in the Vatican in Rome. But since the whole of Europe stands converted to Christianity, the entire ancient Druidic Vedic priestly set-up was turned Christian and their former head priest still remains their head. His office the Papacy is also a Sanskrit term signifying absolution from sin, as explained more fully elsewhere in this volume.

A footnote on page 181 of Caesar's Commentaries states that "Poenas denotes the penalties inflicted for non-payment." The term Poenas is Sanskrit 'Panas' signifying money, usually coins. It is that word which is being spelled as Pence as a unit of British currency.

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(27) Pp 180-182, Caesar's Commentaries on the Gallic War, translated into English by T. Rice Holmes, Macmillan & Co. Ltd., St. Martins Street, London 1908.

"Their doctrine, is believed to have been found existing in Britain, and thence to have been imported into Gaul" records Julius Caesar (on page 182 of his memoirs).

From this it is clear that Vedic civilization existed in pre-Christian times in both Britain and France. The tendency of European scholars to bundle up that civilization with the contemptuous non-descript 'heathen' or 'pagan' label and consequently shut out all systematic or sustained study of it is one of the most sinister characteristics of current Western scholarship.

Caesar's surmise that Vedic culture was spread in France by Dravids in Britain, may or may not be true but it does indicate that Britain did in those ancient times too exercise a certain supervisory control over the Vedic set-up in Europe. It could be that the British isles, due to their remote seclusion were chosen by the Vedic Druids as their headquarters from where to depute persons on administrative duties to various parts of Europe.

Midnight as the Zero Hour

A supporting proof for the conclusion is that the practice of changing the date at the midnight-hour to synchronize with sunrise in India fits- in with the $5\frac{1}{2}$ hour time-difference between India and England. Since London was the head-quarters of Vedic Culture in Europe, its midnight hour was adopted as the zero hour for the whole of Europe.

Julius Caesar further informs us that "Druids as a rule take no part in war, and do not pay taxes...They enjoy exemption from military service and immunity from all burdens. Attracted by these great privileges, many persons voluntarily came to learn from them, while many more are sent by their parents and relatives. *During their novitiate it is said that they learn by heart a great number of verses, and accordingly some remain twenty years in a state of pupilage. It is against the principle of the Druids to commit their doctrines to writing....They are unwilling to allow their doctrine to become common property, or their disciples to trust documents (lest) they become less diligent in study and their memory is*

weakened. The doctrine which they are most earnest in inculcating is that the soul does not perish, but that after death it passes from one body to another. This belief they regard as a powerful incentive to valour as it inspires a contempt for death. They also hold long discussions about heavenly bodies and their motions, the size of the universe and of the earth, the origin of all things, the power of the gods and the limits of their dominion, and instruct their young scholars accordingly. "[28]

The practice of committing all lessons to memory and all memorized texts being in versified form, mentioned above, are unmistakable characteristics of the Vedic mode of education.

Even the topics mentioned as the special concern of the Druids viz. astronomy, the birth-cycle, the imperishability of the soul and unflinching valour are all traits of Vedic culture. The doctrins of the imperishability of the soul and the soul passing from one body to another in different births are tenets preached by the Bhagawad Geeta. That Vedic scriptures were widely studied and highly revered in ancient Hindu Europe is apparent from Julius Caesar's wording quoted above.

Icon Worship

About the divine icons that the Druids worshipped Julius Caesar records "the god whom they most reverence is Mercury whose images abound. He is regarded as the inventor of all arts and the pioneer and guide of travellers and he is believed to be all-powerful in promoting commerce and the acquisition of wealth. Next to him they reverence Apollo, Mars, Jupiter and Minerva. Apollo they regard as the dispeller of disease, Minerva as the originator of industries and handicrafts, Jupiter as the suzerain of the Celestials, and Mars as the Lord of War. To Mars, when they have resolved upon battle, they commonly dedicate the spoils. "[29]

The deities mentioned above are known in Sanskrit as

(28) Pp. 182-183, ibid.
(29) P. 184, ibid.

Budha, Soorya, Mangal, Indra and Lakshmi.

All the foregoing information in this chapter leads to the conclusion that the pre-Christian culture of the whole of Europe was entirely Vedic, that it was supervised by a class of people known as Druids and that these Druids were trained in South India and assigned duties all over the world.

On the frontispiece of the volume titled **The Celtic Druids** its author Godfrey Higgins declares that his book is "an attempt to shew that the Druids were the priests of Oriental colonies who emigrated from India and were the introducers of the first or Cadmean system of letters and the builders of Stonehenge of Carnac, and of other Cyclopean works in Asia and Europe. "[30]

Pyramid - Builders

In the preface to his book Higgins adds that it was "the extraordinary race, the Buddhists of upper India...who built the Pyramids, Stonehenge, Carnac etc. (and who) will be shown to have founded all the ancient mythologies of the world, which however, until recent times, were originally ONE and that one founded on principles sublime, beautiful and true."

The only amendment we would suggest to the above extract is that it was the Vedic people, namely the Hindus (not Buddhists) from India who are the originators of all the legends of the world and builders of all prominent buildings throughout the world, including the Pyramids. Higgins too obviously implies that they were people of the Vedic tradition since it is that tradition which has been universally acclaimed as "sublime, beautiful and true." (Satyam-Shivam-Sundaram)

Higgins adds "..... The Druids of the British isles were the priests of a very ancient nation called Celtac...Those Celtac were a colony from the first race of people, the descendants of the people

(30) Frontispiece, The Celtic Druids by Godfrey Higgins, Rowland Hunter, St. Paul's Churchyard, Hurst & Chance, St, Paul's, Churchgate & Ridgway & Sons, Picadilly, 1929.

who escaped the effects of the deluge to the borders of Greece, Italy, France and Britain...In a similar manner colonies advanced from the same great nation, by a southern line through Asia, peopling Syria and Africa...all the languages of the Western world were the same, and that one system of letters, that of the ancient Irish Druids, pervaded the whole world. It was common to the British Isles and Gaul, to the inhabitants of Italy, Greece, Syria, Arabia, Persia and Hindustan."[31]

Here then we have emphatic corroboration of the central theme of this volume, from an ancient British author Godfrey Higgins that after the last flood it was again the Vedic civilization and Sanskrit language and script which were spread throughout the world by Manu and his descendants exactly as held by Vedic tradition.

On page 1 of his book Higgins observes that "In examining the very early histories of the modern parts of Europe, we everywhere meet with the monumental remains of a race of persons called Druids. In many places the ruins of which I speak are very great in size and perhaps in remote ages, have been highly ornamented and of great magnificence."

"Caesar...says, speaking of the Druids, that they did not think it lawful to commit the secrets of their religion to writing."[32]

Since Sanskrit learning was always committed to memory it is obvious that the Druids of Europe used to chant the Vedas and other Sanskrit scriptures.

Caesar assigning the reason why the Druids did not commit their doctrines to writing says "they appear to me to have enacted this law for two reasons - because they neither wished their doctrines to be made known to the vulgar, nor their pupils trusting to the aid of letters, to pay less attention to the cultivation of the memory."[33]

(31) P. XCVI, ibid.
(32) P. 11, ibid.
(33) P. 14, ibid.

The Roman philosophers regarded the "Druids....as examples of wisdom and models for imitation on account of pre-eminent merit of some kind."[34]

This indicates that the Druid administrators of the world socio-economic system of the Vedic-civilization were highly venerated as people very learned and of exemplary character.

Druids and The Vedas

Agam and Nigam are words used in Indian Sanskrit tradition to denote ancient Vedic learning. We find those very terms among the Druids of Europe. Higgins records in that context that "After the introduction of Christianity the Ogam writings, not being understood by the priests, were believed to be magical and were destroyed wherever they were found. Patrick is said to have burned 300 books in those letters. The word Ogam or Ogum is preserved in the Welsh, where Ogam is augury and divination. Kazzlar also tells us that Oga, Ogum and Ogma are old Celtic words implying letters written in cipher, and indirectly an occult science.[35] The reference in the above extract to occult sciences as the Ogum clearly implies the Vedas.

The reference to the burning of the sacred Vedic books illustrates how all over Europe the earlier Vedic civilization was destroyed by Christian invaders.

St. Patrick Destroyer of Vedic Culture

Patrick was raised to sainthood precisely because he took a big hand in destroying Vedic culture. Muslims too later copied this Christian practice of proclaiming every super-marauder to be a saint.

Mr. Toland has observed, that "there are various manuscript treatises extant describing and teaching the different methods of this secret writing, one in the college library at Dublin and in that of his grace the Duke of Chandos."[36]

(34) P.13, ibid.
(35) P.21, ibid.
(36) P.21, ibid.

If those mansucripts are still available they could throw light on the ancient Vedic civilization of Ireland. Obviously Dublin must have had only one college when Higgins wrote his book.

European Culture Nourished by India

Higgins also hints that the European civilization was constantly nourished by the Vedic culture in India, by observing "the affinity between the Greek, the Roman and the Celtic languages observed by M. Huddleston is perfectly consistent, as will be hereafter explained... (in) that a singular stream of emigration flowed from some great nation in the East to the West, irrigating, if I may use the expression, with small streamlets the countries at the side of its course."[37]

That 'great nation in the east' was none other than India in ancient times.

Divinity of Vedic Learning

Higgins adds "If it were to be admitted that an intercourse anciently existed between India, Persia and Britain, it could have been conducted by the chiefs of the Brahmins, the Magi and the Druids....the substitution of the refined Sanskrit will account for all traces of (the remnant letters of primeval learning) ....The writings at Persepolis bear a strong resemblance to the Irish Ogham. The word Agam or Ogam, for they are the same in Sanskrit, is mysterious according to Sir william Jones....These Ogham characters were the first invented letters...writing on leaves was also proverbial among the Romans... The Druids of Ireland did not pretend to be the inventors of the secret system of letters but said that they inherited them from the most remote antiquity."[38]

Panini the Sanskrit grammarian and all other ancient sources, repeatedly point out that the initial (Sanskrit) letters and other knowledge was gifted or taught by divinity and not invented by humanity.

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(37) P. 22, Ibid.
(38) Pp. 27-42, Ibid.

Another point to be noted in the above-quoted passage is that the Magi and the Druids are but synonyms of the word Brahmin.

Higgins' book also mentions on pages 43 to 51 of his volume **The Celtic Druids** that Nagarkot, Kashmir and Varanasi in India and Samarkand (in Russia) were great ancient centres of learning in which immense Sanskrit literature existed. Apparently most of that treasure of ancient learning throughout the world, as at Alexandria, Istanbul and Rome was destroyed by Muslim and Christian invaders.

On pages 60 and 61 Higgins has set out a table of comparable words which clearly proves that the remoter we proceed in time we find Sanskrit to be at the narrowing apex as the sole divine source-language of the world.

World Travel by Vedic Priests

Our assertion elsewhere in this volume that under the world Vedic administration people had free access to any part of the globe, is borne out by Higgins' observation that "in general a priest, a dervish, a Druid, a Brahmin could pass from India to Britain protected by his sacred character with perfect ease."

X'mas A Druidic Vedic Festival

"The festival of the 25th of December was celebrated by the Druids in Britain and Ireland with great fires lighted on the top of hills. This festival was repeated on the 12th day, or on what we call the Epiphany....The order of Druids was as common in France as in the British isles. Christmas in France is called Noel. This word is in fact, the Hebrew or Chaldee word Nule...In Irish, Christmas Day is called Nolagh (In Cornish it is Nadelig), in Armorican, Nedelek, in the Gael, Nolling....The evergreens, and particularly the mistletoe, which are used all over the country, and even in London, in this festival, betray the Druidical origin. These had evidently nothing to do with Christianity."[39]

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(39) P. 161, ibid.

"Among the Gauls, more than a hundred years before the Christian era, in the district of Chartres, a festival was celebrated to the honour of the virgin, virgini parituree (Pellout, Hist. des Celtes, Tom V, p15, Dupus Tom III, p. 51, also Frichius, Pt. ii cap X, p.98). In 1747 a Mithraic monument was found at Oxford, on which was exhibited a female, nursing an infant—the Goddess of the year nursing the God day... a memorial of the birth of Mithra in the night of light. ...The Protestant mode keeping Christmas Day... is a remnant of the old Etruscan worship of the Virgin and child - The Goddess Nurtia (whence our Nurse) .....Gorius's **Tuscan Antiquites** (reproduces) in print an old Etruscan Goddess with the child in her arms. No doubt the Romish church would have claimed her for a Madonna but most unluckily she has her name Nurtia, in Etruscan letters, on her arm, after the Etruscan practice....This was a great festival with the Persians, who in very early times celebrated the birth of their god, Mithra."[40]

It is obvious from the above details that Christmas, far from being a Christian festival is an ancient worldwide Vedic festival marking the tilt of the northern hemisphere towards the Sun. The end of the Mahabharat war about the same time imparted that ancient Vedic festival with an added significance of relief, joy and Krishna worship. That is why from the end of the Mahabharat war, much before the beginning of the Christian era , statues of the holy child, Chrisn in His mother's arms used to be consecrated and worshipped in every homestead around the world.

The daft subtlety by which Christians took in whole communities and their customs and stamped them as Christian is explained by Godfrey Higgins on page 164 of his book, **The Celtic Druids**. He observes "the monks of Roman and Greek churches were remnants of the sect of the Essense converted to Christianity, and much degraded and corrupted from their excellent predecessors.....When they became converts they formed an odd mixture of

(40) Pp. 162-163, ibid.

the two religions. In what they called monasteries, many of them built before the Christian era, a day had from time immemorial been dedicated to the God Sol (i.e. the Sun) as his birthday, and that he bore the epithet Lord...Thus came the 25th December, the heathen festival of the God Sol to be selected as the birthday of Christ, and the Druidical festival of the Winter Solstice to become a Christian rite... (the 'birth' of the Sun on 25th December) was kept from India to the Ultima Thule...these ceremonies partook of the same character..."

From the above extract it should be apparent that all ancient people throughout the world, whatever the name of their community or region, were united by a common Vedic culture and observed common festivals. It could be that one and the same festival had a different emphasis in different regions. In our own times for instance, Ganesh worship, Durga festival, Dussera, Deepawali and Makar Sankranti, are observed by Hindus everywhere with differing emphasis and significance.

The people of ancient Europe were known as Celts alias Kelts. According to Dorothea Chaplin "people under this designation seem to have varied in racial characteristics and to have spoken different languages, while apparently possessing in common a religious system which included halls of justice. These people were subject to an authoritative body of Druids or priests who framed and enforced laws for the benefit of the community.....The Aryan origin of the Keltic (people) is a controversial subject, but in which other direction can one find a clear explanation of fire worship, and of all the ceremonies apertaining to it ? *Where else are these functions described in detail at such an early date as that ascribed to the Rigved? And in which sacred literature other than that of the Hindus can the Bull, the Boar and Serpent be traced to a definite source as divine symbols ?*"[41]

The above observation makes it clear that the pre-Christian

(41) Pp. 16-20, Matter, Myth and Spirit or Keltic and Hindu Links, by Dorothea Chaplin.

culture of the world was Vedic alias Aryan and its administrators were known as Druids.

In her book titled *Sanskrit and Its Kindred Literatures-Studies in Comparative Mythology* (C. Kegan Paul & Co. Paternoster Square, London, 1881) Laura Elizabeth Poor observes (Page 1 and 2 of her book) ''I propose to write about the literature of different nations and different centuries. I wish to show that this literature is not many but one; that the same leading ideas have arisen at epochs apparently far separated from each other, that each nation however isolated it may seem, is in reality a link in the great chain of development of the human mind, in other words to show the unity and continuity of literature....The histories of Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Romans or Greeks, were so many detached pieces of information.... *but the moment the mind realizes....that one nation is connected with all others, its history becomes delightful and inspiring....And it is to the Sanskrit language that we owe this entire range. (To trace the origin of literature) we ought to have....a general idea of the Sanskrit language, its enormous importance and its relations to modern science...Sanskrit was a spoken language at the time of Solomon, 1015 B.C. also of Alexander. 324 B.C.* ''

In Sanskrit 'Dya' signifies the bright shining firmament. Its lord, father alias protector is Dyaus Pitar. It is those two terms which have combined in the word Jupiter i.e. Zeuspitar alias Dyaus Pitar.

Devas is the most ancient name for the supreme god. It becomes Doevas in Zend, Theos in Greek, Deus in Latin, Deivas in Italian, Dieu in French, and Devi in English. Christians and Muslims in several cases branded pre-Christian deities as devils to emphasize their own proselytized role.

Sanskrit The Source of World Literature

Laura observes (on page 120 of her book) ''In Sanskrit are many stories, which are chiefly interesting as being the foundation of some of the stories of Arabian Nights.''

Aesop's Fables too are fashioned on the Hitopadesh and Panchtantra stories of ancient Sanskrit literature.

The Arabs too had their translations of those two Sanskrit classics. Thus one finds that in the ancient world Sanskrit was the source and norm of all civilization.

Ancient Persia, as long as it was Hindu, also used to be a part of the great and noble Vedic culture. But Laura *notes that Mohamedanism has changed Persia for the worse and warns (on page of 142 her book)* ''*We must utterly dismiss from our minds the Persian of today, effiminate, treacherous, a Mohamedan in his religion a sensualist in his life, and go back to a period 2234 B.C. when there was an Aryan government in Persia.* ''

Originality And Superiority of Sanskrit Literature

Laura asserts (page 173 of her book) that ''In judging Sanskrit literature we must not one moment forget that it was absolutely self-developed; that it grew up without any contacts with other nations. The Greek literature is not so independent a manifestation...Sanskrit literature seems spiritual, pathetic and noble; while the Greek seems unspiritual, artifical and immoral.''

The Clan Administration

Under the Vedic world administration, every clan, town and village was trained to look after its own local, civic affairs. Such a Government by clan was once supposed to be peculiar to the Highlands of Scotland, but now it may be known that that was a trait of the worldwide Vedic socio-economic system.

Druidic Education

The Dravidic system of education was Vedic according to which after the age of 5 a boy was sent to the Guru's hermitage for 12 to 20 years of education. About this Laura Poor observes ''The Druid priests were allowed to spend 20 years in learning the sacred hymns; but as they never committed anything to writing the hymns are lost to us. We would not regret this since we have the Vedic

hymns, which are sufficient to prove all our conclusions, but we shall at once be reminded of the customs in India. These Dravids were also teachers and judges and physicians. Their power was so great like the Brahmans in India."

But for a few corrections here and there Laura's observations quoted above are uncannily accurate. She rightly concludes that the Druidic hymns were from the Vedas. That their educational system too was Vedic. The Cromlachs, Dolmens and Stonehenge are very ancient Druidic alias Vedic stone structures. Numerous such can be seen scattered all over the British isles. They may be said to be skeletons of massive ancient edifices.

The current belief in academic circles that the Aryans migrated from one region to another and that the Kelts were Asiatic tribes which migrated to Europe needs to be substituted by another. There were no such tribes and therefore, no migrations. Masses have generally lived where they have been born. But their cultural affiliations have been changing. For instance, people in the vast region from Afghanistan to Algeria and Morocco were a few thousand years ago devout Hindus but today they are sworn Muslims. That has brought about such a change in their language, script, dress, diet, thoughts, beliefs and behaviour that a thousand years later, they may be mistaken to have migrated from somewhere.

♦♦

THE ORIGINAL HOME OF VEDIC CULTURE

An Arab acquaintance once wrote to me that ancient (pre-Islamic) Arabian culture bore a close resemblance with Indian (Hindu) culture. From this he concluded that India had derived its (Hindu) culture from Arabia. Though that is not wholly true it does carry a grain of truth.

This volume is meant to awaken the world to the realization that what we know as Hinduism in modern times, is the ancient, Vedic culture, and that this Vedic, Hindu culture is the primordial culture of the whole world and not of India, Arabia or some such isolated country exclusively. Like Arabia, whichever country tries to trace its ancient roots the search will lead inevitably ultimately to the Vedic tree.

This gives rise to the vital question as to where did Vedic culture originate? Did it flow from India to other countries or from some other country to India? Our solution decisively resolves both those puzzles.

Havoc Caused by Wrong Tutoring in History

Adolf Hitler persecuted the Jews and hounded them out of Germany, labouring under the mistaken belief that Germans were Aryans while Jews were not. He is said to have killed six million Jews in gas chambers. Even if that figure be an exaggeration it still illustrates the havoc that tutoring in wrong history can cause.

Vedic culture is also known as Aryanism or Sanatan culture or Hinduism. All these four terms are synonymous and they encompass the whole of humanity which was originally enlightened enough to regulate its life according to Vedic tenets.

Therefore, the term "Aryan" signified a god-fearing, law-abiding, cultured person while a non-Aryan meant a boorish, wild, unsophisticated vagabond who refuses to observe the rules of good behaviour.

From this point of view Jews are as much Aryan as are the Germans. Moreover, the word Arya being a synonym of the word "Vedic", Germans and the Jews are both of Vedic ancestry. That is to say the ancestors of both practised Vedic culture. Therefore, Hitler should have hugged the Jews as co-Aryans instead of shunning, hating and hounding them out as non-Aryans.

Vedic culture having been the primordial culture of all humanity from the start of the world, it belongs to all nations. Consequently it cannot be said to have been confined to only one place and thence flowed to another. But all evidence points to the fact that India, Tibet and the adjoining parts of Russia formed the nerve centre from where Vedic sages and administrators spread over the world.

Contrarily we may more appropriately say that worldwide Vedic culture now survives mainly in three pockets of the world viz. India, Nepal and Bali. Other countries misbelieve themselves to be Buddhist, Christian or Muslim though they were all Vedist Hindus before they were sucked into other individual - centred cults.

We may explain this by citing two instances. Java and Sumatra are today predominantly Muslim while the tiny Bali island is still Hindu, Vedic. But it is also known that before the terror-raids of Arab marauders in the 14th century Java and Sumatra too practised Hinduism. Will it then be right for Bali to say that as a Hindu country it had ruled over Java and Sumatra? On the contrary the capital of Indonesia being located in Java and because Java and Sumatra are bigger regions it is they who ruled over Bali. Yet the turning tide of history has left Bali Hindu while Java and

Sumatra profess Islam.

Take another instance. If a father has four sons and only one of them retains his Vedic culture while others take to Communism, Christianity and Islam, those three will be estranged from Hinduism. In such a case the proper course would be for all to realize that their primordial culture was Hindu alias Vedic and that the three converts must return to their original culture. There the three returness need not suffer from any guilt or inferiority-complex.

From the above two instances Hindus of India, Nepal and Bali may derive satisfaction from the fact that they continue to retain their primordial Vedic culture while the rest of the world was weaned away from it through force, allurements or ignorance, to personality-based cults.

Likewise the non-Hindu people of the world may realize by a study of this volume that Vedic culture is everybody's primordial divine culture to which they must all return. For that is the only one which will ensure ultimate salvation. Other cults and religions having all been founded by individual mortals, can never be proper substitutes for the divine Vedic culture alias Hinduism.

Pococke observes (on page 251 of his book INDIA IN GREECE) "Sir William Jones concluded that the Hindus had an immemorial antiquity with the old Persians, Ethiopians and Egyptians, the Phoenicians, Greeks, and Tuscans, the Scythians or Goths and Celts, the Chinese, Japanese and Peruvians." What Sir William Jones has observed is uncannily right. But perhaps scholars like him did not quite realize that the evidence they have produced only proves that the whole world was united in Vedic culture from the beginning of time.

Since Aryanism is only a synonym of the primordial, world-wide Vedic culture, it should be realized that Aryanism did not spread or migrate to the other regions from Russia, the Pamirs or from the North Pole, Turkey, West Europe or Mesopotamia. Scholars who have hitherto fancied such specific regions as the original homeland of the Aryans have all been proved wrong. The only

proper and authentic solution to the puzzle is that Aryanism alias Vedic culture has been everywhere from the very start of the world.

As a further illustration let us suppose that Islam is wiped out from the rest of the world and survives only in some stray parts of the Philippines. At such a time if historians realize that earlier Islam existed in several other regions of the world too, would it be proper for them to surmise that Islam originated in the Philippines and had spread from there to the rest of the world. The same applies to Aryanism alias Vedic culture, alias Sanatan Dharma alias Hinduism. Only because it survives in India predominantly it cannot necessarily have spread from there. Vice versa it would be more accurate to assume and assert that while Vedic culture has been forgotten and forsaken elsewhere in the world it still continues to be revered, followed, and preserved predominantly in India, Nepal and Bali.

Such an understanding of history will not only prove to be a realization of the ultimate truth but will also provide the right answer to the vexed and intractable question of the original home of Vedic culture alias Aryans.

Besides, the realization that Vedic culture is man's real, primordial, universal heritage should be helpful in mankind's search for peace and administrative and social unity. If ever leaders of humanity feel the need to establish a world government and do away with crippling and alienating regional barriers they will realize that Vedic culture is the highest common factor to which they can all return to find ultimate peace, solace, identity, idealism and happiness.

Professor Wilson observes (as quoted by E. Pococke on page 249 of his book titled INDIA IN GREECE), "the origin and development of the doctrine, traditions and institutions (described in the Puranas still extant) were not the work of a day, and the testimony that established their existence three centuries before Christianity, carries us back to a much more remote antiquity- to an antiquity that is probably not surpassed by any of the prevaili

fictions, institutions or beliefs of the ancient world."

Sir William Jones, Wilford, Tod and Colebrook all hold that the Puranas record the oldest traditions of mankind. That those traditions are entirely Vedic and that they cover the entire globe and not India alone, needs to be clearly recognized.

India the Hub of Vedic Culture

That India was the nerve-centre or the hub and head-quarters of the primordial world Vedic culture, is apparent from several clues, being cited hereunder.

India the Universal Paradise

The term Tibet is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit term Trivishtap meaning paradise. The holy peak, Kailas, the sacred Manas Sarovar lake and the venerated sources of the rivers Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati and Sindhu are all in the Himalayan region. The supporting Arab tradition that Adam first stepped on the earth from the heaven in India points to the fact that Tibet, Kashmir and the Himalayan foothills may be that region which is named 'heaven' alias 'paradise' and which has all holy associations. From this it appears that the nucleus of humanity steeped in Vedic culture spread all over the world from the Himalayan region.

India the Custodian of Vedic Literature

Another clue is that India alone largely retains a whole range of the ancient Vedic Sanskrit literature, and evinces intense devotion and reverence for Vedic culture unlike people of other countries.

Dogged Hindu Defence of Vedic Culture

The third clue is the firmness with which the cream of Hindu Kshatriyas kept valiantly defying the ruthless might of Muslim and Christian invaders for 1235 years (712 to 1947 A.D). This wouldn't have been possible if the roots of Vedic culture alias Hinduism had not been in India. There Vedic culture may be compared to a mighty banyan tree whose branches canopied all over the world and whose roots bound the whole world together. Later, however,

Christian and Muslim assaults hacked the branches of that great Vedic culture, and countries and regions were wrenched away one by one, sometimes within as short a time as two months. But in India, Vedic culture succeeded in resisting mortal blows because its Kshatriya tradition, nurtured by Vedic tuition remained firmly rooted in its faith. That defiance and resistance for 1235 years of the most brutal assaults is a unique feat of unparalleled resistance in history. Because while others have fought a seven-year war or a hundred-year war Hindudom is the only community which has fought a 1235-year war not only against aliens but against its own erstwhile bretheren who, because of their conversion to Christianity and Islam became helpers of the enemy.

A number of leading thinkers around the world have also recognized both the facts namely that the ancient world has a common faith and culture and that India was the pivot of that culture.

William Durant, author of the 11 volume **Story of Civilization** observes "India was the motherland of our race, and Sanskrit the mother of European languages. She was the mother of our philosophy.... of our mathematics...of the ideals embodied in Christianity...of self-government and democracy....Mother India is in many ways the mother of us all."

That is a very appropriate appraisal because like a fond mother it was India which nurtured and nourished the whole of humanity physically and culturally. Like young children learning on the lap of their mother it was India which provided for and conducted the education of all communities throughout the world. That is why we see a uniformity and identity in language, theology, architecture, scholastic tradition, terminology and every other branch of human activity. Another author remarks "Hindus being the far more advanced must have been the teachers and Greeks the disciples."[1]

The above remarks may be understood to mean that Vedic

(1). P. 27, Theogony of the Hindus

culture flowed to Greece as to other parts of the world from India like water supplied from a common reservoir or like blood pumped by the heart to all members of the human body. But the above-quoted observation shouldn't be taken to mean that India was one nation and Greece another and that though the Greeks had some other separate culture they were somehow prevailed upon to accept Hindu, Vedic culture like the spread of Islam and Christianity in modern times.

The situation in the world long before the Christian era was quite different. From the beginning of time humanity was one brotherhood whether living in one place or scattered over different regions. That brotherhood continued to be guided, controlled and nourished from what we currently know as India.

The author of **The Theogony of the Hindus** also observes on page 168 of his book "No nation on earth can vie with the Hindus...The high civilization of the Hindus gradually extended itself in the west to Ethiopia, to Egypt, to Phoenicia, in the east to Siam, to China and to Japan, in the south to Ceylon, to Java and to Sumatra, in the north to Persia, to Chaldea and to Colchis, whence it came to Greece and to Rome and at length to the remote abode of the Hyperboreans."

Edward Pococke observes "Now the whole of the society in Greece, civil and military, must strike one as being eminently Asiatic, much of it specially Indian...I shall demonstrate that these evidences were but the attendant tokens of Indian colonization with its coresponding religion and language. I shall exhibit dynasties disappearing from India, western India, to appear again in Greece, clans who fought upon the plains of Troy."[2]

Sanskrit the Sole Language of the Ancient World

Since Greece is supposed to be the fount of European culture and since Greece itself had the same culture as India, as mentioned above, it is obvious that the pre-Christian culture of Europe was

(2). India in Greece, by Edward Pococke.

all Vedic. And since Sanskrit was the sole language of Vedic culture, used in every sphere of life, it is apparent that Sanskrit was the sole language of the ancient, united Vedic world.

Another author has stated "Adelung, the father of comparative philosophy.....placed the cradle of mankind in the valley of Kashmere, which he identified with paradise. To Adelung we owe the opinion, which has prevailed so widely, that since the human race originated in the East most Westerly nations, the Iberians and Celts, must have been the first to leave the parent."[3]

We should like to suggest some slight amendments to the above remarks namely that in ancient times the word Tibet (Trivishtap - in Sanskrt meaning Paradise) may have applied to the entire Himalayan region upto Afghanistan. Naturally the Kashmir valley was a part of the 'Paradise'. Secondly the view that the most Westerly nations (such as Iberians and Celts) must have been the first to leave India could be put in a different way. We may say that people living in every part of the world followed Vedic culture. But as a result of the colossal destruction of the Mahabharat war, the universal Vedic administration broke down. Thereafter, the farther away a community was from India the more difficult was it for that community to communicate with India. Consequently remoter communities got progressively isolated quicker than those nearer India. Militarily and administratively also India got cut off from Western regions much earlier than Eastern regions because of uprisings of Christians and Muslims in the West.

A French author, Cruiser observes "If there is a country on earth which can firstly claim the honour of having been the cradle of the human race or at least the scene of primitive civilization, the successive developments of which were carried into all parts of the ancient world, the blessings of knowledge which is the second life of man, that country assuredly is India."

The words 'primitive civilization' should rather be understood

(3) P. 1, The Origin of the Aryans, by Sir Issac Taylor.

to mean primordial civilization. Because Vedic civilization being of divine origin was the most advanced, sophisticated and civilized in every sphere of life. Though in the current 20th century we boast of scientific and technological advancement, yet in a number of other spheres such as pollution, moral behaviour, the nurture of children away from their mothers, the eve-teasing and prostitution of our age, the rising crime, the addiction to drinks and drugs, must go down as symptoms of a diseased and degenerate society. Is this steep decline in public behaviour and social happiness compensated by proliferation in mechanical gadgets?

Modern society is falling apart in every way. Vedic society was made up of undivided families while in modern times even parents live separate from their grown-up children and even married couples are getting separated.

Another author, L.A. Waddell has also noted that in ancient times humanity had a common culture. He states "We discover that the hitherto inexplicable unity in the essentials of all the ancient civilizations is owing to the original unity of the higher civilization and its diffusion throughout the world by its originators, the ruling race of Aryans and specially....their sea - going (branch) the Phoenicians".[4]

We have explained elsewhere how the 'Arya' signifies Vedic culture and not a race. Therefore Waddell's remarks if understood to signify that it was Aryanism that is Vedic culture which had spread throughout the world he is absolutely right.

H.H. Wilson remarks "The affinities of the Sanskrit language prove a common origin of now widely scattered nations amongst whose dialects they are traceable and render it unquestionable that they must all have spread abroad from some central spot in that part of the globe first inhabited by mankind."[5]

(4) P.X. Preface by L.A Waddell, to the book Phoenician Origin of the Britons, Scots and Anglo-Saxons.
(5) P. Cli, Preface, Vishnu Puran, Oxford

Father Philips has admitted on page 231 of his book titled *The Teaching of the Vedas* "After the latest researches in the history and chronology of books of the *Old Testament* we may safely now call the Rigveda as the oldest book, not only of the Aryan humanity but of the whole world. We are justified therefore, in concluding that the higher and purer conceptions of the Vedic Aryans were the result of a primitive divine revelation."

Here again the term Aryan has been mistakenly used to signify a race. As explained by us earlier Vedic culture itself was known as Aryanism, and that culture was spread throughout the world. Therefore, Father Philip is right in considering the Rigveda (in fact all the Vedas) to be a book of the entire humankind throughout the world. He has also very properly regarded the Vedas as a revealed book.

Incidentally it may be stated here that Muslims and Christians usually distinguish their sects as religions based on a book such as the Bible or the Koran. The Islamic term for that is 'Kitabia' But when we come to think of it are not the Vedas a book too? In fact since the Vedas constitute the primordial revelation those who floated Christianity and Islam also felt the need for some synthetic scripture of their own.

♦♦

INDIA AS IT WAS KNOWN

India has been the hub, the root, the mainland, the heartland, and headquarters of worldwide Vedic culture. As such like the root of the banyan tree it seems to have the magical power to sprout new roots even if hacked. This has been demonstrated in history time and again by India's Vedic culture alias Hinduism, wilting, wincing and yet continuing to live through 1235 years (712 to 1947 A.D) of Muslim and Christian assaults even though countries and cultures elsewhere, which were branches of the Vedic tree were wiped out of existence in as little as two to four months. As such, matters pertaining to India need special review in certain aspects of history to help the reader's general understanding of world Vedic culture.

This Phoenix-like immortal resilience of the soul of Vedic culture found expression in a confession of helplessness of a Muslim poet, Maulana Altaf Husain Hali who rued-

दीने हजाजी का बेबाक बेडा । निशाँ जिसका अक्साए आलम में पहुँचा ।
न कुल्सम में झिजका न सेहोमे अटका । मुकाबल हुआ कोई खतरा न जिसको।
फिर पैसपर जिसने सातो समंदर । वो डूबा दहाने में गंगा के आकर

Translated into English it means :-

That incomparable armada of Islam
Whose proud flag every country did slam
Which stuck not in any gulf or strait
Overcoming impediments small or great

Which sailed proudly the seven seas
Was, alas! swallowed ultimately by the Ganges.

Such is India, the main fount of Vedic culture, known by several other names such as Bharat and Hindusthan. This is not, uncommon. Both individuals and countries bear different names preferred by the natives or familiar to outsiders. Siam, Japan, Egypt, the British Isles, Norway, Sweden etc. have all more than one name. Bharatvarsh alias Bharat is a name which applied to the whole world in ancient times, when Bharat, a Vedic prince ruled the world. Later, however, since the Mahabharat war the term Bharat alias Bharatvarsh has been applied to a progressively shrinking region of the world practising Vedic culture. Thus at one time it applied to the region comprising the Indian peninsula, Afghanistan, Persia, Russia and Turkey. Later Russia, Iran and Turkey got cut off but Afghanistan remained a part of India. Still later, from the time of Mohamad Gazhnavi even Afghanistan was wrested away. Now from 1947 West Punjab and East Bengal too have been cut off and the term Bharatvarsh applies only to the region from Srinagar to Cape Comorin.

These shrinking boundaries of Vedic culture ought to be a matter of great concern for all humanity because the honour of women, the freedom of men and the security of children will vanish in the proportion in which Hinduism alias Vedic culture shrinks.

The other name Hindusthan is believed by some to be an alternative pronunciation of the term Sindhusthan i.e. literally the tract on both sides of the Indus. However, at least, within living memory the term Hindusthan has been applied to the territory on the eastern bank of the Indus river, extending down to Cape Comorin. From 1947 A.D. onward the term Hindusthan signifies the tract from the Wagah border (north of Amritsar) to Cape Comorin.

Yet some Hindus regard the name Hindusthan alias Hindustan as tainted with a sinister connotation, being invested with an abusive allusion. They contend that some Islamic dictionaries explain the word Hindu as signifying a thief, rascal or scoundrel, and therefore

the term Hindu should be disowned. That is a misconception. All Islamic dictionaries do not feature the word Hindu as a term of vile abuse. There are several Muslim dictionaries which explain the term Hindu or Hindostan as evoking a feeling of adoration and admiration.

What is in a Name?

Even assuming that a vast majority of Muslims use the term 'Hindu' as an expression of gross contempt, the remedy does not lie in abandoning it or running away from it. The proper remedy is to instil in the adversary a sense of awe and respect for that name, through forceful action. Every name can be imparted a ring of awe or disrespect depending on how the people bearing that name behave. The name Hindu will continue to be ridiculed if Hindus continue to be indisciplined, cowards, selfish and submissive. The day every Hindu stands firm and returns tit for tat he will be highly feared and respected by his enemies. A community which cannot field an army will never win a war.

A person ragged and ridiculed for his name by his tormentors will never earn any respect from them if he panders to their demands and keeps changing his name. For every change the enemy will pour more ridicule, and rag the Hindu even more. The proper remedy under such a situation is to instil the fear of God in the enemy and make him respect the word Hindu. Let Hindus be proud of their name and the world will be proud of them. Any name acquires the ring of the deeds, sacrifices, valour, dedication and discipline that are associated with it and the world will be proud of them. Contrarily if cowardice corruption, selfishness and slovenliness get associated with a name the same name will stink. Moreover, the reputation of a name is never the same throughout the chequered course of its history. It keeps fluctuating depending on the turns of fortune of any individual, community or nation. Therefore, it is better to stick to one's traditional name and make desired changes to suit one's own needs and scope of one's activities if necessary but never to please the world. Because changing one's name-style to escape teasing is itself a defeat which invites more

torment and ridicule. The Aesop's Fables tale of a donkey and three men has an appropriate moral. No matter what combination they worked out to ride or not to ride the donkey and even carry him on their shoulders the onlookers never stopped deriding them. Likewise there is the story of a person who being dissatisfied with the name Thanthanpal (ठणठणपाल) chosen for him by his parents set out to choose a better one. During his search he saw a person bravely engaging a group of assailants all by himself. Highly impressed he asked for the hero's name. As luck would have it the name was 'Coward'. Proceeding further he met an ugly woman whose name turned out to be 'Lovely.' Later he met a generous philanthropist whose name was Midas. Thus he found that there is no integral relation between the name and the reputation of a person. So he decided to respect his own congenital name, Thanthanpal rather than hanker to change it. All such stories have a moral in history. Never try to please the world. If one is convinced that one's aims are pure one's own name-tag will ultimately command the world's attention and respect.

Other Facets

Moreover there are other aspects to be considered. The term 'Hindu' may have been debased as a term of abuse in some instances but very many other instances may be quoted where the term Hindu exudes adoration and respect.

It may also be noted that the substitute pronunciation Hindu (of the word Sindhu) is not a Muslim trait alone. Even in India, in the Saurashtra region e.g. all words beginning with 'S' are invariably pronounced with a substitute 'h'. Thus the word 'Samjha' is pronounced as 'hamjha'. Somnath is mentioned as 'Homnath' and so on all along the line.

This trend may be noted even in Europe where, for instance, the term 'semi-sphere' is spelled as 'hemisphere'. Consequently it is unhistorical to believe that the term Hindu was tagged on to Indians by hostile aliens as a contemptuous label. Substituting 's' with 'h' is an ageold universal trend.

It also needs to be considered that Hinduism has a multi-million-year history. If out of that long stretch the term Hindu has been used as an invective by some Muslims for the last one thousnad years it ought to be dismissed as a mere pin-prick misfortune. To outweigh that it could be shown that even Muslims have expressions of the highest reverence reserved for India. For instance, they say 'Hindostan Jannate Nishan' i.e. India is the very heaven. The four rivers which Muslims revere as of celestial origin are the Nile of Egypt, Farat in Iraq, Jehu in Turkey and Sehu (i.e. Sindhu i.e. the Indus) of India.

Hindu- A Highly Respected Name

The Arabs believe that Adam, the progenitor of humanity descended from the heaven, in India.

Jahij an Arab writer has in his writings expressed great admiration for India. The pen name Jahij stands for Umar-bin-Bahar-bin-Mohmood Abu Usman.

Another Arab writer Ibn-e-Fikya-Himzani has recorded that by God's grace India is the country blessed with aromatic plants, diamonds and other gems, hippos, elephants, peacocks and a number of adorable animals. In that description he has used the word Sindh to denote the province at the mouth of the Indus, as well as the term Hindu as referring to the rest of the country without any disrespect attaching to either term.

The tales of Ibrahim Abu Anajil alias Sindbad the Sailor are those of a Vaidya alias Baidya (i.e. a Hindu Ayurvedic medical practitioner) from the province of Sindh in ancient India. The Islamic or Arbo-Iranian twist given by Muslim writers to ancient Hindu names is a great snare which imparts a deceptive Mohamedan ring to even pre-Mohamad history, as e.g. Sindh-Vaidya has been confounded and compounded as Sindbad.

Another writer, Masaudi paying tribute to India has lauded even the intelligence and training of Indian elephants. He narrates how when the mahout of an Indian elephant died the latter inconsolably

shed tears and refused to eat.

In another incident a herd of elephants led out of its stables had to course its way through a narrow lane in single file. The elephant at the head of the herd led the way. As the leader negotiated a turn a woman who happened to emerge out of her house, being taken aback by the unexpected appearance of a huge form before her, fainted and lay sprawled in the lane. At ~~that~~ the leading elephant also tarried. He signalled to his followers to stop and as though inspired by almost a human sense of chivalry he took hold of the loose end of the woman's saree with his trunk and laid it gently on so as to cover her bare bosom. After a time the woman regaining her consciousness hurried away. Seeing the lane free for traffic once more the leading elephant trumpeted to his followers that the way was clear. He led the way in elegant elephantine haste as though to make up for the lost time. His followers imitated his gait and soon getting out of the lane the herd huddled together on the wide highway in elephantine camaraderie.[1]

Mathir-bin-Tahir Mukadsi, a resident of Mecca has recorded contemporary information that if anyone was forced to turn a Muslim he was taken back into Hinduism according to the religious rites prescribed in **Deval Smruti**.[2] This should awaken Hindus to their duty of striving to persuade all Christians and Muslims to return to Vedic culture.

Another resident of Mecca, Vishari Mukadsi has recorded that "the political administration and the judicial system of Sindh are remarkable for their efficiency, thoroughness and promptitude. Wining and womanizing are totally absent."

Kazi Seeed Adalsi (born in Spain) lauding the expertise of Sindhis

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(1) The foregoing information may be found in three sources: (a) P.2, Arab Aur Hind Ke Talukat, by Suleman Nadvi, (b) July to November 1961 issues of Urdu monthly, **Burhan**, article by Abul Namr Ahmad Khaldi (c) Pp 160-163 Hindustan Arbo Ki Najro Me (Urdu book), Vol 1.

(2) Pp. 247 and 279 and 379 - 394 Ibid.

in arithmetic adds that the Arabs learnt arithmetic from Indians.

An Arab historian Yakubi has referred to punitive expeditions organized by a Hindu sovereign from India against Babylonia and Israel.

A Russian port on the Black Sea still bears the Sanskrit name 'Sindhi' from the Sanskrit term Sindhu i.e. the sea (and also the Indus river).

Chinese travelogues refer to India's Indus river as Shito or Shitu or Shituho. Incidentally the neighbouring Japanese spelled and pronounced the term Sindhu (culture) as Shinto.

Arabs termed every indian Hindu. Even in French the word Hindu signifies an Indian.

The Iranians use the term Hindu to signify coloured people of India and other lands (see Molsworth's Marathi-English dictionary). Iranian dictionaries interpreted the term Hindu as connoting a coloured person or thief (and sesame) but that was in the post-Mohamad era after the Iranians forced to adopt Islam at sword-point, were trained to be fierce Hindu-haters. But in Arabic dictionaries the word Hindu has pleasant and respectful connotations. An Arab poet, Sevaye sings -

> "First it was Hind and next Khalid
> Both those beauties have me immobilized."
> 'Hindi' is the Arabic adjective from Hind.

Another Derivation

While one view is that the term Hindu is an alternative spelling of the term Sindhu, another view is that the term Hindu is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit term 'Indu' meaning the moon. This suggestion appears plausible in view of the European term 'India.'

Huentsang, the Chinese traveller records that "TienChu (i.e. India) is known by several names. India used to be known earlier as Shitu and Hinaoo. But if properly pronounced it should be 'Intu'.

Residents of that country refer to their homeland in several ways. In Chinese the word moon has several synonyms of which 'Intu' is one. It is a respected term. The reason for that country being named 'Indu' i.e. the moon is that scholars from that land have brightened the world with their delightful and shining knowledge, like the moon."[3]

In Vedic parlance the moon often figures as a standard of pleasant purity. For instance, a pleasant, round countenance is likened to the moon. The names of Rama and Krishna are often suffixed with the term (चंद्र) 'chandra' i.e. the moon (as Ramachandra and Krishnachandra). The waxing and waning of anything is often compared with that of the moon. Several women also wear a vermilion mark of the pattern of a crescent on their forehead to invoke god's blessings that their marital bliss too may wax like the moon. According to Huentsang India too has had a reputation of shedding cool, silvery lustre over the world through its Vedic civilization, hence its name Indu alias India. In fact (इंदीय) Indiya (alias India) is an exact derivation of the Sanskrit word Indu (meaning the moon) indicating a country partaking of the quality of the moon. The term Hindu may, therefore, be a variation of the word Indu.

The usual explanation that Hindu may be an alternative pronunciation of the word Sindhu may not be right because the province of Sindh has never been known as Hind. Had Sindhu changed to Hindu the name Sindh too should have been changed to Hind. Even in the epic Mahabharat the territory of Sindh is referred to as the Sindhu Sowveer region.

Albiruni's chronicle also makes it clear that the term Hindu is not a variation of the term 'Sindhu'. He notes that to proceed to Sindh from his country one has to travel across Himroz alias Sijisthan but if one wants to reach (India) Hind direct one must pass via Kabul.[4]

On the northern frontier of the Indian sub-continent (now in

(3) Samuel Beal's translation of Huentsang's Travelogue
(4) P. 198, Vol.1, Albiruni's India, by Edward Sachau.

Pakistan) is the Hindukush range of mountains. Some Hindus suspecting an insult and invective at every step imagine that the term Hindukush has been coined by the enemies of Hindudom to keep alive the memory of the slaughter of the Hindus in the passes of those ranges. There is no reason to suspect any sinister motive in that term because it is a very ancient pre-Muslim term. 'Kush' has several meanings. It also signifies a kind of grass. As for slaughter Muslim hordes and British troops have also been many-a-time slaughtered on the slopes of the Hindukush.

Considering all such evidence, terms like Hindu, Hindusthan and Hindustan are of ancient standing and have generally evoked the highest admiration and adoration.

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THE VEDIC SOCIO-ECONOMIC SYSTEM

Under the Vedic system humanity is grouped into four classes. Let us call that a horizontal division.

Correspondingly the individual's life is vertically divided into four parts namely the unmarried state, married life, detached life in the forest and the last phase of Sannyas i.e. a period of total renunciation and social service.

The four horizontal social groups were known as Brahmins Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras. The current popular notion that their social importance or human status dwindled progressively from the Brahmin to the Shudra class, is not well-founded. The importance to society of each of those groups was equal.

Those horizontal and vertical divisions are intended not only for good management of social life but also to ensure a happy and purposeful life for every individual.

The notion that the Brahmin class exploited the others and bossed or tyrannized over them is unwarranted as we shall presently discuss.

Western scholars have been branding the Vedic system as Brahminical. That is a mistaken appraisal. Let us take a parallel example. In universities, for instance, professors, the Vice chancellor and Chancellor exercise overall supervisory control. Why? Not because they have descended on the campus from the high heavens

but because they have risen to those positions from the ranks. Like all others they plodded their way from the Kindergarten to the doctoral status. But as they go along they show their merit and at the end of their education they are chosen to fulfil supervisory functions. Even there it would be wrong to imagine that they are bossing over others to show off their own importance or authority. At times when they appear stiff, strict and demanding that is to ensure purity of conduct, standards of academic tuition and maintenance of discipline. Yet we don't brand such a system as one of professorial bossing simply because professors exercise overall authority.

Similar is the case with the Brahmin. He also rose from the ranks. Manu's famous dictum lays down that at birth everyone is a Shudra. It is only when he displays special aptitudes and abilities during his training he becomes a part of the relevant social group. No group was higher than the other. Each had its specific duties and responsibilities. Those who had better aptitude for manual work such as labour and mechanics constituted the Shudra class. Those who could deal with complicated accounting and export-import or storage and sale of commodities, formed the Vaishya class. Those who could perform the duties of those two classes plus had an aptitude for weapon training and the courage and patriotism to undergo physical hardships and risks for the security and well-being of the community were the Kshatriyas. Those who were adept at the duties of all the other three classes and yet had the dedication and readiness to devote all their life to studies and social service sans remuneration were classed as Brahmins. A Brahmin had to abide by five principal vows namely, Satya, Asteya, Ahimsa, Aparigraha and Brahmacharya meaning truth, non-stealing, non-hurting, non-possession of wealth, and continence.

Thus a Brahmin-class-person was not at all privileged socially. Contrarily he was supposed to maintain the most abstemious standards in every aspect of life. In fact he was raised to such high standards of intellectual development that he disdained wealth and considered it his duty to spend his entire life in community

service without any personal remuneration. The 'aparigraha' rule ensured that he was not to have any property of his own. He received no remuneration. His day-to-day expenses were met from the social system in which Brahmins officiated as teachers, artists, astrologers, astronomers, doctors, scientists, counsellors, architects, engineers, sculptors etc.: but received only free meals, apparel and a pittance to buy some knick-knacs for daily use.

This was a very subtle psychological system. It built-up a class of persons reaching the highest intellectual and moral standards and the acme of professional excellence but at the same time ensured that this class would scrupulously keep itself totally aloof from economic competition. It was this particular class which, because of its super-intelligence and supreme knowledge of all fields, could floor everybody and corner the entire wealth of the community if it wished to. And yet it was precisely this class which had been simultaneously trained to regard all lucre as filthy and a life spent in earning wealth as a sinful waste. Consequently, the Brahmin was the man who abstained from all luxury, immorality and dishonesty. That is why Manu, the law-giver, has said that under the Vedic socio-economic system, Brahminism is the ideal which every person must strive to attain. Here there were no privileges but only hard work, sterling character and a life of self-imposed abstinence and service despite a superb mastery of worldly knowledge. That mastery of worldly ability was controlled by a super-consciousness of godly knowledge and responsibility that human life was a precious divine heritage which was to be spent not in dissipation but in perpetual service.

The Brahminical Routine

Therefore, a Brahmin woke up at about 4 AM. After his ablutions, bath and physical exercise he had a session of 'Swadhyaya' by the side of a sacred fire. That is to say he repeated to himself, loudly in Sanskrit "I shall abide by the truth, I shall never steal, I shall never tell a lie, I shall never be found wanting in my duty to my mother, father, nation, humanity" etc. etc. This was the Vedic way of hammering into every person's mind both at day-break and dusk through self-repetition that mundane life was but ephemeral, temptations of earthly life brought no good either in this life or hereafter, that it is one's duty to lead an abstemious life dedicated to public service and towards that end one must shun vice and avarice and feel happy in untiring, truthful service to the community. In short, one was not to cry out for one's own rights but to tire out oneself in public service.

That one-fourth part of society composed of Brahmins thus voluntarily, contentedly and happily kept itself totally out of economic competition.

Kshatriyas

The next group, called Kshatriyas manned all administrative services to run the State on the taxes prescribed by Vedic socio-economic statute such as Manusmriti. This class too was restricted to its own separate sphere of socio-economic duties.

Vaishyas

The third group, known as Vaishyas managed all farming, trade and commerce. They too adhered to the strict rules about the purity of goods supplied to society and the minimum margin of profit permitted to them by the Smrities.

The fourth class, namely the Shudras did all the manual duties.

This classification originated according to Vedic tradition, from the time that divinity created the first few generations of trained men. The initial group of Brahmins emerged from the face of Brahma, the Kshatriyas from his arms, the Vaishyas from Brahma's torso and the Shudras from Brahma's feet. This is unjustly interpreted by some to mean that the Brahmins have appropriated for themselves a superior status while relegating the other groups to a progressively lower social strata. That is an improper and lop-sided assessment. Firstly, let it be realized that if there are four classes whichever way one enumerates them, a particular group will always have to be mentioned first while the others will come later. That should not be considered their ranking of importance. Secondly, the

association of these groups with the different limbs of Brahma does not make them great or small because for a body to function properly all limbs have to be intact and efficient. Thirdly, the mouth is even more filthy than the feet if one comes to think of it. Moreover a man whose feet are lame or are amputated won't be less of a cripple than one whose face has been disfigured. Those groups have been associated with different limbs of Brahma to illustrate their functions and to keep them contented in their own respective spheres and to rule out any class conflict.

This Grouping was not Necessarily Hereditary

Both Lord Krishna's pronouncement in the Bhagawad Geeta and of Manu in his Smriti make it clear that the four classes have been made according to the abilities and aptitudes of people. In actual practice it so happens that in a vast majority of cases, birth and nurture in a particular family does condition the person to lead a life of that group. But if by any chance a person didn't fit into his hereditary group because of aptitude or behaviour he was free to change his group. But such a change was not a mere chance allegiance and association. It was a total dedication to a new kind of life. Life in each group began at about 4.30 a.m. Upto 'Swadhyaya' the routine was the same for all. Only thereafter it branched off. But even there life for none of the four groups was easy. It was one of incessant activities throughout the day and then an early retirement to bed, for all the four. Therefore, none should believe that Brahminism was a bed of roses and Shudraism was a bed of thorns. Life was equally rigorous and moral standards were equally high. Only duties and functions differed. Therefore, there was no temptation at all to join a different guild. The Brahmin hardly ever touched wealth. He was to receive only a few coins for day-to-day upkeep. He looked upon money as a source of contamination and temptation from his high philosophic pedestal. At the other end the Shudra could be wealthy by earning wages for his labour and skill. In ancient history Shudras are known to have been 'Sahukars' i.e. wealthy money-lenders.

Change of Group for Money-Earning was Frowned Upon

Except the Brahmin all the other three classes were fairly wealthy. Yet they did not cross each other's path. Therefore, there was no social strife or class-struggle or economic competition. One couldn't cross over from one group to another for monetary consideration. Under the non-Vedic system today if a person is tempted by the profit-margin in manufacturing TV sets or shaving blades he quits his professor's job and takes to manufacture. Thereby his academic knowledge goes waste while he becomes a rival to others already in the manufacturing industry. Such change of group for earning more money to be able to roll in wealth and laziness is precisely what is unacceptable to Vedic idealism. Their earning profits to be able to lead a life of luxury, vice and laziness was absolutely ruled out. What Vedic society insists on is each one lead a pious, active life of humility and service to society. Money-earning was no consideration at all.

Charity at Every Stage Enjoined

Even the three groups who were socially and psychologically prepared and permitted to deal with wealth were so brought up as to keep their wealth flowing ceaselessly in a stream of charity. From birth to death various occasions and rituals had been prescribed at which a person had to keep on giving away grain, bullion, cloth and money in charity. Those who had more could create endowments for bigger charities such as academic institutions, poor houses, widows' homes, orphanages and the like.

Voluntary Retirement was the Rule

Every person's life was divided into four stages of about 20 to 25 years each. The first was devoted to studies and the second constituted the married householder's life. It was only in that second stage that the person was concerned with economic activity. From the age of about 50 or 60 years he withdrew himself from socio-economic life and dedicated himself to isolated meditation and detached reflection. That was the third quarter of a person's life. It eliminated interference with the younger generation's life, and

ensured calm detachment from worldly affairs. The last quarter of a person's life was to be spent in selfless social service of one's choice, capabilities and aptitude. Thus there was no economic competition or strife what-so-ever between anybody at any stage. Consequently Vedic society ran like a well-oiled mechanism smoothly and noiselessly. Since money-making was socially and psychologically ruled out as an objective, each group and individual led a contented and happy life within the boundaries of his group.

Cause of Reverence for Brahmins

Eversince alien rule began in India, the Hindu educational and socio-economic system was broken into bits. As a result the four-fold division of an individal's life and the four groups of Vedic society became inoperative. The duties and functions of the four social groups became progressively blurred. The ancient ideals and demarcated spheres became extinct. 'Get rich quick and lead a life of luxury and indolence' became a common ideal. As a result the whole of humanity has become one seething mass engaged in incessant cut-throat competition from the teenage stage to the very day of one's death, for amassing maximum wealth with the minimum of effort in the shortest possible time. In such a society the birth of a Freud and Karl Marx is inevitable. But the doctrines they formulated were symptomatic of the ills that humanity has been suffering from eversince the Vedic system broke down.

In that keen competition the Brahmin naturally fares best because he has behind him generations of highly cultivated skills and knowledge. Naturally he excites jealousy and resentment of the non-Brahmins. But that was precisely the reason why superb Vedic training psychologically weaned the Brahmin away from money-earning activities and confined him to a holy isolation of dedicated community-service all his life. Thus the Vedic injunction, in a way, said to the Brahmin that 'since you have a comprehensive knowledge (that is what is meant by the Sanskrit term Brahmajna alias Brahmin) of the divine, holy purpose of cosmic life and you have the ability to outdo everybody in a competitive world you have been trained to be forbearant enough to keep out of it all.' This supreme ability

and yet total abstinence to which the Brahmin group confined itself for millions of years has earned it the gratitude, awe and reverence of society for generations. Therefore Brahminism was not a privilege in economic terms though it was a privilege in the spiritual and divine terms. Consequently, Brahminism, Kshatriyaism, Vaishyism or Shudraism was free for anybody to enter, provided one was ready to abide by the strict rules and discipline of each group. Generally a person born in a particular group alone acquired the aptitude and ability to abide by its rules. The four groups appear at our distance to be governed by birth because eversince Muslim invasions started in 712 A.D. the Vedic life-system and group-system broke down in India. In the rest of the world the Vedic socio-economic system broke down much earlier i.e. after the Mahabharat war. Therefore, let it be clearly understood that being a member of any group was no cakewalk or privilege. In fact the social punishment for lapses by a Brahmin or Kshatriya was more severe. Being a member of any Vedic group involved a gruelling routine, strict rules of conduct and stern norms of social behaviour. Moreover equal importance attached to every group because they were like the four wheels of the social chariot. Under these conditions where was the need for anybody to change his group? But if as a freak, one did exhibit abilities and aptitude of a different group and was able to fulfil its requirements he was most welcome to change his group.

Were Shudras and Women Disqualified from Vedic Learning?

It is commonly believed that Shudras and women were not considered 'pure' enough to handle or study the Vedas. This is a misinterpretation and misunderstanding.

Let it first be known that there cannot be any question of barring anybody from 'knowledge' and the Vedas are the founts of all knowledge. Contrarily, Vedic and Upanishadic knowledge was being constantly dinned into the ears of the young and old, rich or poor, men and women day-in and day-out at every ritual and festival through religious discourses and recitals. The audience was even encouraged to study and repeat the lessons wherever possible.

But learning the Vedic texts by dedicating oneself to the Brahmin way of life was a different matter. It involved 20 years' absence from home from the age of 5 or 8 years at the Guru 's forest-hermitage and spending the rest of one 's life in dedicated, abstemious social service from 4 a.m. to say, 9 p.m.

A woman could not generally do this, because she had her own physiological problems of menses, deliveries and household duties. Similarly a Shudra who was, say, a mechanic or carpenter, couldn 't leave his profession to lead the abstemious life of a Vedist Brahmin. That is what is meant by the general injunction or disqualification of a woman and a Shudra. Thereby they are not at all down-graded.

But if for general knowledge, during sparetime they wished to borrow a Vedic text and read it they were most welcome because Vedic knowledge was meant to be spread by every means. In fact that was why profesional preachers of every kind were liberally provided. Whole professions revolved around such abstemious, itinerant preaching only because individuals wouldn 't have spare time and expertise for Vedic learning.

Therefore, let no one believe that teaching or learning the Vedas as a sparetime hobby or for elightenment was taboo. On the other hand all incentives and encouragement were provided for it.

But let it be realized that even studying the Vedas as a sparetime hobby is no joke. Even erudite scholars are not able to make head or tail out of the Vedas because they constitute a billion-year ancient complicated, condensed divine cosmic code of all arts and sciences rolled into one. Yet sparetime study by anybody and everybody was actively encouraged. Even taking to a total Vedic life of a Brahmin was certainly allowed if one was prepared to abide by all its rules for the whole of one 's life.

The Vedic Guild System

The group-system described above was the universal guild system. In each group there were sub-groups. For instance, among

Brahmins there were astronomers, astrologers, architects, engineers, doctors, sculptors, priests, teachers, counsellors, judges etc.

The Kshatriyas included all administrators, policemen and army personnel.

The Vaishyas included traders, farmers, bankers, accountants, manufacturers etc.

The Shudras included all who did manual work such as metal-smiths, miners, carpenters, washermen, labourers, masons etc.

None of these classes was considered higher or lower spiritually and socially. The awe and reverence attached to the Brahmins was because of their expertise and abstinence. The awe and respect for Kshatriyas arose from their security functions and patriotism.

The Vaishyas were respected because they provided the wherewithals for civil and military life.

The Shudras were respected for the essential manual services they provided in every sphere.

Thus there was none great and none small. Therefore, one did not covet or hanker to enter another group. This is summed up in Lord Krishna 's guideline in the Bhagawad Geeta that it is better to live in one 's own group than hanker for some other. Thus in a theoretical sense this guild-system was not birth-bound but in a practical sense it was generally hereditary. In any case it is wrong to dub it as casteism and associate any untouchability or social stigma or handicaps with it.

Advantages

The advantages of the Vedic guild-system were immense. It eliminated cut-throat competition and profiteering.

Such guilds constituted a close-knit brotherhood of which large joint-families were units facilitating happy marital relations.

Hereditary trades and professions led to free

apprenticeship-training at home from childhood. And generations of expertise led to products and services attaining high standards of excellence. The new entrants in the trade were none other than the younger generation from the same group. There was no influx from other groups or regions. This eliminated unemployment or labour trouble and fostered love and respect for one another in the group.

The Status of Women

Women enjoyed sovereign status in the family and community. Every bride entering a marital home is told by the priest in Sanskrit 'Be thee the queen of this home' Manu has said that "a women must always be protected by all and where women receive honour and homage divinity is pleased." Thus women were accorded a superior goddess status at home. A woman was like the queen - bee busy in the home hive. Equality of status or even superiority for women however, must not be interpreted to mean an identity of functions and professions with the male. A woman's person being sacred, her personality being delicate, venerable, vulnerable and violable as also because a woman's physiological and psychological make-up fitted her for the home; in Vedic tradition the domestic sphere is left excusively to the woman while the rough and tumble of the outdoor sphere was left to the male. The night-club-life and prostitution role of women which have become hall-marks of modern life, are totally unacceptable to and condemned as criminal by Vedic tenets.

Solicitous Safeguards for Women

Since Vedic society respects the person of a woman as a mother, as a goddess, as a queen of the family, as the chief of the household, as a sister, daughter and daughter-in law it provides solicitous safeguards for her throughout life.

Basically some elderly male such as a father uncle, grandfather, husband or son is held responsible to provide social security and financial support to the woman. If due to family circumstances the natural guardian-cum-supporter is unavailable the next-in line

assumes the responsibility to look after her safety and welfare. But never is she to be left to her own resources and to fend for herself. Like bullion and gems and jewellery entrusted to a person for safe-custody with a proper receipt and responsibility, even a woman given in marriage is entrusted by her guardian from her parental home to the guardian at the marital home.

The vermilion dot on a woman's forehead proclaims that either she is a virgin looking forward to marriage or a married woman with her husband living. To further distinguish the virgin from the married woman, the latter wears a Mangal Sootra (sacred marital thread) i.e. a necklace of black beads with a gold pendant and silver toe-rings signifying her married status.

A woman in the family-way wears green apparel and green bangles symbolizing fertility. Such a woman is invited and feasted by relatives and friends in turn so that she may not suffer from any feeling of shyness and may experience a sense of fulness, fulfilment and belonging. Such parties and get-togethers also help to keep the woman in a cheerful mood and cater to her craving for different kinds of tasty food because of the growing foetus inside her.

Her green attire is also a signal to society to accord her all comfort and consideration due to her state of pregnancy.

A widowed woman has the vermilion dot wiped off her forehead as a sort of a standing advertisement to her elders to provide her with a suitable groom or other guardian and protector so that the woman may not languish unprotected and uncared for.

Thus Vedic society was intended to be a smooth clockwork with all situations provided for without anybody having to ask or answer any questions and everybody offering loving service to those in need of it.

The Festivals

The Vedic system provides pious festivals throughout the year to add colour and gaiety to life and impart a spiritual conviviality

to social life. Such days celebrated with appropriate rituals help to remind humanity of the divine significance of earthly life. Life in Vedic society is governed by the Vedic almanac. The Vedic almanac outlines the cosmic, astrological significance of every day. Vedic life throughout the world was governed according to the cosmic significance of that day. This invested every day with a special divine importance and spiritual aura. Thereby a feeling of dreary insipidity never intrudes on the human psyche in the Vedic system. Every oncoming day is something to look forward to as one of special augury and message. Contrarily the modern non-theist or atheist indulgence in an incessant round of physical pleasure such as tennis, movies, drinking parties and outdoor picnics bereft of spiritual significance palls on the mind. The human being ultimately despairs it all and sinks into the morass of melancholia by feeling lonely and bored. Such a feeling is effectively shielded against by Vedic festivals. Incidentally, the word convivality used above is a Sanskrit word 'con' is the Sanskrit word 'san' meaning 'together'. Vive is the Sanskrit word 'jiva' meaning 'life'. Therefore, 'convival' means living together happily i.e. spending time together happily.

Economy

Vedic life enjoins the utmost economy in everything not out of a consideration of miserliness but out of a realization of the responsibility for conservation and proper distribution of resources and also to ensure simplicity, save time and prevent snobbery. Rural homes made of thatch and mud plaster are easy and inexpensive to make with local labour and material and are easy to maintain. Such an home is cool during summer and warm during winter. Its walls and floors, given a cowdung wash ensured clinical sterilization. Vedic practice recommends cow's urine as a handy disinfectant and cow's milk, ghee, curd, urine and dung mixed together (called Panchagavya) as a prophylactic dose. Modern scientists may verify these Vedic recipes and remedies with an open mind. Floors washed with cowdung are known to resist infectious bacteria. Such floors are also soothing to the feet and hygenic and

inexpensive to maintain.

In the Vedic social scheme every village and every guild was self-sufficient. The necessary raw material and manufacturing skill enough for local needs was evailable locally.

Vedic practice enjoins man to be conscious of his role as a representative or trustee of divinity, in earthly management. Therefore, wanton slaughter of animals or plant-life for sadistic satisfaction or for sheer enjoyment is frowned upon. Consequently all kinds of life was not only tolerated but highly respected as members of the divine plan.

Ecology

Being conscious of the harmful effects of heavy industry in polluting air and water resources and of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in poisoning foodgrains, Vedic practice specialized in developing herbal pesticides and maintaining an ecological balance.

Ethnology

Vedic practice aims at developing supermen not only physiologically but even psychologically and spiritually The aim was to develop every Atma (i.e. the soul of the common man) to Mahatma (i.e. great soul) and Paramatma (i.e. the divine soul) not merely in the metaphysical sense but in a practical and material way. This was done by prescribing a strict routine and disciplined behaviour for every person. Drinks and drugs were totally ruled out. Vedic routine was to wake up two hours before sunrise, take regular yogic physical exercise and drink cow's milk to the exclusion of other drinks, utilize the entire working day in one's guild duties and retire to bed early.

Women were not considered as sex-dolls but as highly venerated daughters, sisters, queens of the household and as mothers and goddesses. Making women work in the outdoor world and flirting with them at public balls, night clubs, and houses of modelling and prostitution in the name of equality of the sexes is considered very undesirable in Vedic practice, as leading to frustration,

molestation, gangsterism, disease and degradation of womanhood. Instead Vedic practice ensures a loving, homely atmosphere for the woman where her life will be properly cushioned and kept secure in every respect.

Sex was venerated as a divine mechanism of procreation and therefore not to be indulged in for pleasure. Consequently, a woman is never looked upon in Vedic life as a sex-kitten. Contrarily she is looked upon as a mother and goddess who nurtures the world. Since sexual relations were looked upon as a mechanism in the divine plan of procreation, sexual relations were confined to the couple wedded according to Vedic ritual. Even a married couple was enjoined to look upon sex as a means for desired progeny. Consequently continence was demanded even from the married couple.

Manu's code is very strict. It rules that eating more than what one needs for a healthy life amounts to social theft. On the same analogy indulging in sex for mere pleasure and not for progeny, is criminal misbehaviour.

What is Brahmacharya?

Obviously all such rules of disciplined conduct from morning till night according to one's age and position in life, is known as Brahmacharya. That term signifies behaviour regulated according to the divine purpose of the Cosmos as intended by Brahma-the Creator.

All such behaviour was intended to eliminate crime and disease and build-up a contented and industrious society wherein every generation of human beings could be progressively more handsome, healthy, hefty, long-lived, dutiful and intellectually sharp.

Recycling the Soul for Human Pedigree

The tiny sperm is like the seed of a tree which has the potential of sprouting a mighty personality.

The nucleus of the sperm is the divine molecule called the soul.

Vedic routine aims at developing the potential of that nucleus from generation to generation through rebirths. It is a recycling of the soul with an enhanced and sharpened potential with every new birth. The qualities and the tendencies that a soul accumulates in one birth go on developing or deteriorating through birth after birth according to one's Karma. That Karma involves fulfilling one's duties with the purest of motives and behaviour not only towards others but even in respect of one's own body. In this respect indulgence in unnecessary food, drinks and drugs and unnatural timings of waking and working violate Vedic principles. All strife, disease, unhappiness, cruelty, crime and social turmoil arise from un-Vedic behaviour. Just as a worldly man is very particular about pedigree cattle, dogs and horses, the Vedas insist on human pedigree—physical, intellectual, moral and spiritual. If the quality of the human being is improved on the basis of Vedic tenets expounded above mundane life will be more happy and orderly and social misbehaviour, the armament race and wars shall be totally eliminated. When human beings are so particular about pedigree cattle and dogs, is it not unreasonable for man to be unmindful of human pedigree?

Hygiene

Vedic routine provides for a four-day rest and segregation for women during menses. This practice was in vogue even in pre-Muslim Arabia. Other regions of the world too may look for this very significant detail in their past and that by itself will clinch the issue to prove the existence of a Vedic world.

Deliveries too enjoined a 10-day quarantine. Likewise a death in the family also required a 13-day separation for members of the bereaved household from the rest of the community. All such segregation was based on the most scientific considerations of isolating the possible source of infection. The number of days prescribed in each case will be found to accord with the life-cycle of the offending germs and microbes.

Similar hygienic rules are prescribed by Vedic practice for the

holy isolation of those cooking the family meal or even a gala community dinner. Like a surgeon dressing up for an operation and then holding himself in disinfectant isolation those cooking a Vedic meal have to take an early bath, wear the minimum or clean, holy silken apparel until the meal is cooked and during the serving of the meals to the diners.

Man the Image of God

In saying that God created man in His own image the Bible echoes the Vedas, because it is the Vedas which prescribe the routine for humanity to qualify for return to divinity. Atheists who cannot conceive of a human personality for God may consider that the human form is the life-form nearest to divinity as is evidenced by the human brain which has the capacity to comprehend, conceive and duplicate to a certain extent or imitate God's creative powers in numerous spheres.

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SWEARING BY THE FIRE

Fire plays a very important role in Vedic tradition. Fire is known as 'Grihapati' i.e. the head of the household.

Fire gives light and warmth to the household and cooks food which provides strength and nourishment to the members of the family. Thus fire becomes the nucleus, the rallying point and also the source of life and energy to the household, hence the name 'Grihapati'.

Fire is the very embodiment of the Sun on earth and supplies the necessary energy to human industry and vehicles.

The universal use of the Sanskrit, Vedic word 'Agni' for fire is additional proof of the primordial worldwide spread of Vedic culture. The term 'ignition' that motorists use is one instance of the universal use of the word 'agni'. There could be many other similar instances.

The preponderant importance that Vedic culture gives to fire, is expressed in the maxim 'Agnim eeday Purohitam (अग्निम् ईडे पुरोहितम्) i.e. "Fire is assigned the first position in all worship." That is because it represents life, warmth and energy. No life and no movement is possible without fire alias energy.

Another function of fire is purification by burning all impurities.

Yet another quality of fire is to wipe out the existence of anything unwanted such as a burdensome life or a life sullied with crime or shame. Fire also enables every entity to resolve itself into the

five cosmic elements.

Such qualities of fire made Vedic tradition insist on lighting a fire to serve as a witness, chastiser, guide and presiding deity at every important occasion from birth to death. Even if it be a wedding or consecration of a new house or sending a child to begin his education it is the fire as the embodiment of divine light and energy that is worshipped. Likewise when a life departs leaving back its mortal coil Vedic procedure recommends that it be burnt on the pyre for quick, hygienic and final disposal instead of allowing the body to rot in the grave, contaminate the surroundings and continue to occupy a spot on the earth though the soul has already left for the heaven.

Fire as Witness to Vows

Vedic tradition sets high standards of constancy, purity, loyalty and integrity. Such standards are always vowed to in the presence of a sacred sacrifical fire. Thus when the groom and bride take the seven steps round the fire at their wedding, that implies consigning to the flames all extra-marital sexual aberrations and also an implied understanding that any deviation from marital constancy can be atoned for only by immolation by the fire which is witness to the ceremony.

That is why in the Ramayan one finds Sita entering the fire when her fidelity to Rama was questioned. Vedic Hindu lore is replete with such instances.

It would be wrong to conclude that only women were made to undergo a fiery test. Mediaeval history is replete with instances when all persons, whether men or women were expected to prove their innocence or veracity through a fiery ordeal if there was a dearth of other convincing evidence, or punish themselves for their failings.

Warriors falling short of the highest standards of chivalry, heroism, patriotism or achievement were trained to end their lives by voluntarily jumping into a fire lighted by themselves. They didn't

wait for a public trial or condemnation. The conscience of warriors and everyone else of the Vedic tradition was keyed through precept and practice to such a high pitch of rectitude that any shortfall in it made the warrior convict himself and also undergo immediate voluntary immolation by fire. Consequently in the Mahabharat war when Arjun believed that the sun had set over his unfulfilled vow of slaying his enemy, Jayadrath he post-haste lighted an expitiatory fire to immolate himself.

Hindu legends are full of such instances. Even as late as the early 11th century A.D. when Jaipal the last Hindu ruler of Afghanistan lost that province of his Indian, Hindu, Vedic empire to the Muslim invader, Mohamad Ghaznavi, Jaipal lighted a pyre infront of his palace and jumped into it. So sharp was his sense of shame fostered by his Vedic upbringing! His subjects and country-men had entrusted to him all power, authority and wealth due to his status. As their sovereign they had showered on him all their love and allegiance. And yet when the test came he had failed to successfully carry out his role as protector of the realm and defender of the (Vedic) faith. That was shameful in the extreme. There was no question of any benefit of doubt or of some other excuse. Failure was a failure and blemish was a blemish. Such a shameful life which had failed in its sacred duty could no more be borne. He was a Kshatriya. That Sanskrit term implied that he was responsible for the protection, honour and well-being of his subjects. And yet in-front of Jaipal's very eyes the Muslim enemy was torturing men, raping women, forcing people to turn Muslim under threats and torture, plundering temples, ransacking their homes, burning their farmsteads and poisoning their water-reservoirs.

Jaipal as Accused, Prosecutor And Judge

Was this not a ghastly chargesheet written in the pages of history in the blood of massacred men and the hot tears of scalded women! Was any more proof needed that he had failed to measure-up to the stern standards of protective effciency, vigilance and readiness expected of a Kshatriya and ruling monarch at that, thought Jaipal

to himself.

He was his own prosecutor. The judge in him condemned the accused Jaipal of gross dereliction of duty and of being the cause of public suffering, national humiliation and Vedic loss.

The sentence was nothing short of immolation by the very fire by which he was sworn through several ceremonies and rituals throughout his life, to cultivate and maintain the highest standards of Vedic conduct.

There was no delaying or dallying. The execution of the sentence was instantaneous and voluntary. Jaipal himself lighted the expitistory fire and jumped into it as final atonement for and as a finis to his life which Vedic tradition had taught him to consider no more worth-living.

Such strict adherence to norms leaves a shining tradition for others to follow.

Are those standards being maintained today? Are they even known today? Eversince India obtained freedom from British rule, India was bereft of a large part of Kashmir and a part of Cutch by Pakistan and of the Aksaichin enclave by China all within a period of 25 years and yet not a single member of the ruling Indian Congress party ever jumped into the fire in the rigorous tradition that continued upto the time of Jaipal.

Swearing by the Mike

As against that Vedic practice of swearing by the raging fire we have today a theatrical substitute of swearing by a cold microphone rod. The oath is administered by the Chief Justice to the President, by the President to the Prime Minister and by the Prime Minister to the Chief Justice in an unending, make-believe, meaningless, farcical merry-go-round. Neither the person administering the oath nor the sworn-in person commits himself to anything. The ancient fiery sanction behind the oath is sadly missing. Consequently, they all continue to commit any number of blundering faults, indiscretions, embezzlements and other crimes with impunity with nobody citing

the oath. Far from anybody condemning himself the benefit-of-doubt gives everybody a long rope.

Priest-Administered Oaths

Under the Vedic system it was always the priest who administered the oath. And under Vedic practice priesthood was conferred on the person who led an abstemious life dedicated to perpetual community-service, maintaining the highest standards of courage, sacrifice, piety and rectitude. An oath administered by such a personality, in a way, transfers those same ideals and standards to the person sworn-in. But the modern practice of one aggrandizer administering the oath to another fellow-exploiter and opportunist, only results in perpetuating corruption and pollution.

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VEDIC CULTURE AND MILITARISM

To ensure a strong, just and peaceful social structure, well-trained and dedicated military forces are a necessity. Realizing this, Vedic culture provides for a Kshatriya class which while adhering to the highest standards of purity and simplicity in governance never hesitates to crack-down heavily on demoniac forces with super-demoniac force.

That is the lesson one learns from all Sanskrit scriptures dealing with the life-stories of Vedic heroes and of divine avatars. Whether one reads of the Narasimha Avatar in which Lord Vishnu appearing in a half-human, half-lion form clawed-out the entrails of the tyrannical ruler, Hiranyakashyap or of Parasuram who 21-times routed all unruly administrators throughout the world, or of Rama who slew the all-powerful Ravan who was a terror to the contemporary world, or of Krishna who, as counsellor to the Pandavas, insisted on their taking full advantage of every weakness of the enemy in the Mahabharat war, the only lesson conveyed is that tyrannizers must be annihilated.

Manu, the great law-giver of all humanity has also ruled that the aggressor must be slain outright without the least hesitation. (आततायिनम् आयान्तम् हन्यादेव अविचारयन्)

And yet over the centuries, under the debilitating practices of Jainism and Buddhism over-emphasizing asceticism and ahimsa (i. e. non-killing), Hindus in India, long forgetting their Vedic teachings, reeling and buckling under the thousand-year-long

terror-invasions of Muslim tyrants, have been reduced to a set of whimpering weaklings and milksops; so much so that even their leaders like M.K. Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, sliding ever-deeper into the morass of appeasement and more appeasement, appeared tailor-made for the general public.

The surprising result of this progressive weakening is highlighted in one historic happening. In 1905-1906 when the British administration in India sought to divide Muslim-majority areas of East Bengal from the Hindu-majority areas of West Bengal a public agitation whipped up by strong-willed Hindu leaders such as Lokamanya B.G. Tilak, compelled the British administration to quickly abandon that plan. But later in 1947 when the earlier staunch Hindu leaders had all died and the political field was left open for M.K Gandhi and Nehru they presented to the Muslims on a platter not one but two slices of India, one in West Punjab and the other in East Bengal and yet insisted on retaining in India a vast Muslim population to act as a permanent Trojan Horse.

All followers of Vedic culture everywhere must beware of such leaders. The proper place for preachers of ahimsa and asceticism is a temple or a Himalayan peak. One occupying or controlling a mundane throne in Delhi has no business to talk of ahimsa. He must be prepared to defend every inch of the country's territory and slay the enemy.

Eversince the end of the Mahabharat era Hindus have progressively weakened. They have developed suicidal tendencies of collectively sponsoring the interest of minority communities against their own, of promoting the prosperity of diabolically hostile neighbouring enemy-nations, and of turning the other cheek.

Alarmed at this rot one very respected thinker, Mr. P.N. Sharma of Delhi contributed an article titled *The One Lesson from History which India Never Learnt* - to the December 28, 1982 A.D. issue of the quarterly journal titled *Itihas Patrika* published from THANE (India).

The article observed "With a view to comprehend the enormity

of this aspect of history, a stock-taking in the form of a chart of only important foreign invasions that India suffered is given below:-

(1) First invasion of India by Darius, King of Persia-519-518 B.C.

(2) Second invasion of India, by Alexander, from Greece, 325 B.C.

(3) Third invasion of India, by the Sakas, from Central Asia, 180 B.C.

(4) Fourth invasion of India, by Kushans, from Asia, 120 B.C.

(5) Fifth invasion of India, by the Huns, from Central Asia, 120 A.D.

(6) Sixth invasion of India, by Mohamad bin Kasim, from Syria, 712 A.D.

(7) Seventh invasion of India, by Subuktagin Ghaznavi from Afghanistan, 987 A.D.

(8) Eighth to the 24th i.e. 17 invasions of India by Mohamad Ghaznavi, 1000-1030 A.D.

(9) 25th to 32nd i.e. eight invasions of India by Mohamad Ghori, 1175 to 1206 A.D.

(10) 33rd invasion of India, by Tamerlain, from Central Asia, 1398 A.D.

(11) 34th invasion, by Babur, from Central Asia, 1526 A.D.

(12) 35th invasion of India, by Humayun, from Central Asia, 1555 A.D.

(13) 36th invasion of India, by Nadir Shah, from Persia, 1739 A.D.

(14) 37th invasion of India, by Admed Shah Abdali, from Persia, 1756 A.D.

(15) 38th invasion (battle of Plassi), by the British, 1757 A.D.

(16) 39th invasion by Pakistan (capturing part of Kashmir), 1947 A.D.

(17) 40th invasion by China (capturing part of India), 1962 A.D.

(18) 41st invasion by Pakistan, 1965 A.D.

(19) 42nd invasion of India, by Pakistan, 1971 A.D.

Why was India the victim of so many terror and plunder raids during a stretch of 2,500 years? Because after having amassed immense wealth through its own industry and valour in bygone ages, and after having administered a worldwide kingdom, India had suddenly lowered its guard and gone ascetic under the debilitating influence of Buddhism and Jainism like the ruling Indian National Congress under M. K. Gandhi. Hindus still afflicted by that fakiri mania are committing the blunder of entrusting all administrative and political powers to persons and parties wedded to non-violence.

Mr. Sharma points out that even a person wanting to steal some chairs from a neighbour's house would think twice about the resistance he would possibly meet, while in the case of India a host of Muslim marauders continued pouring-in traversing hundreds of miles and carrying back immense loot with impunity.

Hundreds of Hindu princely houses ruling in India prided themselves in raiding one another's kingdom but never did they unite in a combined front against the dangerous Muslim foe.

Confronted with a similar situation, the Japanese showed great sagacity and patriotism when in 1868 A.D. Japanese splinter-states surrendered their petty dominions and forged a united front against Western powers threatening to make inroads into Japan.

Mr. Sharma points out that even after the attainment of Independence in 1947, a tiny Muslim Pakistan had the audacity to attack India thrice and China also invaded India once. Each time the aggressor made away with large chunks of Indian territory. And yet Hindus kept on singing the praises of their leaders who did not plan or organize a single retaliatory hit to reconquer their lost territories. Is this the way to rule a country? Is a person

frittering away his inherited assets considered ultra-clever or an idiot ?

Mr. Sharma agonizingly poses the question of how on earth we alone have proved to be an easy prey for such attacks, in which our armies have been badly mauled, our women were compelled to seek immolation en masse, our youngmen and women were marched off to be sold as slaves for rape and sodomy in distant lands, and our forts, palaces, temples, towers mansions and bridges were lustily declared as Muslim constructions.

All this misery, progressive impoverishment and tyranny to which India has been subject for the last 2500 years must arouse the Hindus to be once again militarily strong and aggressive. Let our Defence Ministers hereafter be termed Offence Ministers. Rama and Krishna need to be resurrected from their fetish status to be installed on high pedestals as military leaders so that Hinduism may once again govern the world. Hinduism alias Vedic culture is the only creed which knows how to live and let live. All other religions have strife and intolerance built-in within them which destine them to annihilate others and then finish themselves with internecine warfare. The United Nations Organization and its educational organ, the UNESCO would find their task of uniting the world under a world government easier if they propagate Vedic culture.

Regulated Warfare

Under the Vedic tradition even warring parties have to abide by certain strict rules. These enjoin, for instance, that as far as possible, disputes should be settled by individual combat. In such combats the mutual might of the contending parties should be of an equal footing at the start. The fight, whether of individuals or armies is to be conducted in the open away from inhabitation so as not to disturb civilian life. A fallen or defeated foe is not to be harmed or humiliated. Terror and torture are totally ruled out. A total war and scorched -earth policy is never to be indulged in, and the foe is not to be compelled to make common cause with the rival. This is known as Dharma Yuddha.

Because of its long Vedic training and discipline the Hindu warrior class was sworn to such warfare.

Therefore when the rapacious Muslim invasions came spreading torture and terror in their wake, poisoning public water reservoirs, burning standings crops, raping women, slaughtering children, maiming adults, selling prisoners as slaves, and compelling everybody to become a Muslim and fight to decimate their own kith and kin and culture and fill the coffers of West Asian Muslim countries the Hindus were aghast with disgust and disbelief. In the face of such atrocious total war the Hindu reeled back in horror. His heart revolted at that sight and rather than be a party to such mass agony and misery the Hindu preferred to buy peace for the populace at any cost. That is the Hindu mentality built-up under pacifist training over generations.

It has persisted down to our own era. Despite a thousand years of fierce struggle against an unscrupulous Islam, Hinduism is still throwing up leaders like Gandhi and Nehru who still pursue a policy of appeasement and buying peace at any cost.

Thinkers like P. N. Sharma, whom I have quoted above, are justifiably worried that the inherent softness, gentility and refinement of the Hindu mind might ultimately enable a rampant Islam and a subtle Christianity to sabotage and wipe out Vedic culture from the face of the earth.

If such a development ever takes place cannibalism will reign supreme. *Vedic culture is the only hope of mankind. Without Vedic culture the virtue of every woman and the liberty of every man will be in constant jeopardy.* History tells us that under Christianity and Islam men, women and children were sold in the bazars like chattel and chicken.

Perhaps such a tragedy will never recur. Lord Krishna has asserted that Vedic culture is eternal. And this cosmos is certainly governed by mighty divine miracle-forces. Yet let us not take things for granted. So far as is within our power let Hindus adjust themselves to this new situation of a total war. Hindus must steel their heart

to fight tooth for tooth and eye for eye. So long as a war is on, let not a Hindu talk of his Vedas and Upanishads. Their ideals can be preached only after the war so that there may not be another war. But even expecting that is too much because wars seem to be a recurring phenomenon. Therefore, Vedic culture does indeed provide for a permanent professional warrior class, namely, the Kshatriya class.

The only change necessary now is that if **Adharma Yuddha** is the rule of the day, Hindus must be prepared to fight the enemy in this new manner until Hinduism is once again able to inculcate the sense and discipline of Dharma Yuddha in the whole world.

History is replete with instances that for the unscrupulous, monstrous Muslim invaders from West Asia no trick was too mean and no treachery too base. Hindu generals and rulers were often put off their guard by a show of submission, invited for honourable parleys with solemn oaths sworn on the Koran, only to be hacked to death treacherously, unawares. There are also instances of mediaeval Muslim generals and rulers begging for temporary shelter for Muslim women and children in Hindu forts but sending instead soldiers in the guise of burqa-clad women and then treacherously murdering the Hindu king and defeating his army.

Hindus

Hindus have thus proved too gullible and too soft. Horrified by the enemy's atrocities Hindus invariably often sued for dishonourable peace, thus progressively losing men and territory. Hindus must learn to convert and reconvert people to their own faith as the enemy does. Tit for tat should be the rule. And this is exactly what the Ramayan, Mahabharat, Bhagavad Geeta and Manu Smriti teach. Yet Hindu preachers have failed the public. They have totally distorted the heroic message of our scriptures namely to fight to the bitter end with all one's might for a righteous cause, unmindful of all other considerations and teach the enemy a deterrent lesson.

What is Real Surrender?

Hindu rulers and warriors labour under the false notion that an enemy who begs to be let alive is to be released. That is not at all the import of Vedic scriptures. An enemy must be deemed to have properly surrendered only if he agrees to help spread Vedic culture. If he doesn't he deserves no mercy. Merely begging for life is no ground for mercy. Even a common criminal will plead for his life when cornered and arrested. But is that any ground for clemency? In fact the arrest of a person is pre-requisite for punishment and not a step towards release.

As a result of the misleading precept of their priests and preceptors Hindu leaders failed not only in not reconverting captured Muslims to Hindudom but they failed even in reclaiming their own temples and mansions converted into mosques and mausoleums by the enemy. This is the height of folly. It is such suicidal traits which Hindus must quickly abandon and learn to be strict, stern and fierce with faithless enemies.

Military Training Must be Compulsory

As a beginning to reform Hinduism the first basic rule which the Hindus must enforce is that every government or public-sector employee from peon to the president must undergo a minimum of two years' military training.

The present lack-lustre politician and irresponsible bureaucrat is a product of loose upbringing. He lacks vigour, patriotism, dedication and the spirit of sacrifice. He looks upon the government job as a means of making idle money. He believes that he holds a public office to be able to quote rules to reject public requests.

Compulsory two-year military training must also be an essential qualification for any candidate standing for a public election or seeking even a private job. Such training alone will instil some sense of vigour, purpose and discipline in the Hindu public employees and leaders. That will inculcate in them the habit of disciplined and respectful submission and a quick disposal of the job entrusted to them. Retired military personnel should be employed for imparting such training.

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THE VEDIC MILITARY ORGANIZATION

The multi-faceted proof available to indicate that from time immemorial the whole world (spoke Sanskrit and) was united under a common Vedic administration, includes the identity of army organization and terminology.

Navy

Consider the word 'Navy'. That is being anglicised as 'Nay-vi'. But its original Sanskrit pronunciation is 'Naa-vi'.

The fact that ancient Sanskrit words like 'navy', 'naval' and 'nautical' have universal application even today is proof enough of Vedic navies cruising the seven seas and of their crew all speaking Sanskrit for ages until the world was shattered into separate administrative units.

'Nau', 'nauka' 'naukika' are the original Sanskrit words which continue to be used even today with a slight, inevitable variation in pronunciation.

Commodore

Consider another word 'commodore'. Instead of pronouncing it as 'Kamodore' let us pronounce it as 'Samodore' because the alphabetical pronunciation of 'c' is 'see'. Let us now recall that the Sanskrit word for the sea is 'Samudra'. Apparently the term commodore is a malpronunciation of the ancient Sanskrit word Samudra. Even that is only a truncated half-bit because the full

Sanskrit term is 'Samudra Adhikari' meaning a 'Sea-officer.'

In modern times, eversince flying machines were invented, even an air-force officer continues to sport a naval rank, being designated as 'air commodore', unmindful of the fact that 'commodore' is the Sanskrit word Samudra, meaning the sea. Further research along these lines may reveal many more parallels in ancient and modern armed forces terminology.

King

All Kshatriya rulers and leaders had the termination 'Simha' (i.e.'Lion') attached to their names. In course of time the word 'Simha' was written as 'Singh'. Later in old English it was written as cing or cyng. Still later because 'c' was also at times pronounced as 'k' the pronunciation of cing changed to 'King'. Thus the English word 'King' is the corruption of the Sanskrit, Vedic word Singh alias 'Simha' i.e. Lion.

Knight

The King as the supreme commander of Kshatriya forces had generals under him who were known as Nayak alias Naik. Duryodhan refers to his generals (in the Bhagawad Geeta) as Nayaks. The English word knight (pronounced 'night') is a corruption of the Sanskrit, Vedic term Naik alias Nayak.

That this is not a far-fetched derivation may be proved by a parallel instance where Sanskrit 'K' is substituted by 'T' in English. The term Canterbury though currently pronounced as Kanterbury should be Santerbury (when 'c' is made to retain its original alphabetical pronunciation). Now recollecting that the English 'T' has to be read as Sanskrit 'K' we find that the original Sanskrit, Vedic name Canterbury in Englnad was Sankerpury, i.e. a township named after Lord Sanker alias Shiva.

Let us now point out how the entire modern military organization is based on the ancient Vedic military system. That was inevitable because the Vedic system applied to the whole world since Vedic administration was a world government.

Army Units

The smallest unit of a modern army consisting of ten footmen is known as a section. In the ancient Vedic military system too the smallest unit, known as Patti had ten members namely one elephant, one chariot, three horse-riders and five foot soldiers (infantry-men). In all they made ten.

Thereafter the higher units are made up of equal multiples of the Section alias Patti in both the modern and ancient systems.

Three sections make a platoon in the modern system because in the Vedic system three Patties constitute a Senamukh.

By Vedic military organisation what we imply is the system followed by ancient administrators who governed the world according to Vedic tenets. That is the sense in-which the word 'Vedic' has been used throughout this volume.

Readers not accustomed to that use are likely to insist on perusing the texts of the four Vedas as they are available to us today and look for all the military terminology and organization that we are discussing in this chapter.

In fact all those dealing with ancient history must familiarize themselves with this wider connotation of the term 'Vedic'. Because it has been repeatedly emphasized by the elder sages and seers that by Vedic tradition we signify not only the Vedas but the Upanishads, Yoga, Ramayan, Mahabharat and the 18 Puranas. Consequently, the military organization that we are discussing here is followed in the Mahabharat, and the Mahabharat is in fact, regarded as the fifth Veda.

Companies

Continuing our comparison of the ancient and modern military organization we may notice that three platoons together form a company in modern parlance. In the ancient Vedic system too three Senamukhs were lumped together to form a Gulm.

Three companies form a modern regiment. Correspondingly in the ancient system three Gulms made one Gana (गण).

Which is more Ancient?

Whenever such identity is shown, some modern scholars tend to argue in a fit of absent-mindedness that it could as well be that the Sanskrit-Vedic system may itself have been fashioned on the European Greek model. Such argument is untenable as it amounts to putting history in the reverse gear. It is like seeing a movie from the end to the beginning. Such scholars often forget that nothing is older than the Vedas. The Ramayan, the Mahabharat and the Puranas too constitute humanity's oldest literature. Greece, Rome, Egypt, China, Syria, Assyria, Babylonia etc. one and all are but babes of yester-years. Compared to them the Mahabharat etc. are of hoary antiquity. Consequently whenever any similarity is seen between the modern and ancient practices it should never be doubted that the so-called European systems have all a Vedic origin.

Continuing our study of the identity of modern military units with the Vedic we find that while three regiments make a brigade in our days, in ancient times three Ganas made a Vahini. Regiment is the Sanskrit word Rajmant.

Three brigades make one division, so did three Vahinis constitute a Prutana in ancient times.

Three modern divisions constitute a corps, likewise three ancient Prutanas formed a Chamu.

Three modern corps make an Army alias Command. In the same manner in ancient times three Chamus made up one Anikini.

Akshauhini

The Army alias Command is the highest unit of modern armed forces. But the armies of Vedic Kshatriyas had a unit ten times larger than the highest modern military unit. Ten Anikini constituted one Akshauhini.

That indicates that the administration and military forays of Vedic Kshatriyas covered some other heavenly bodies too. This is corroborated by references in the Puranas and the epics which refer

to mutual visits by the rulers on earth and those on other planets.

Having noted that the gigantic Akshauhini was the highest unit of the ancient Vedic army one may well imagine the force comprising the 18 Akshauhini fielded by the Kauravas and Pandavas together in their internecine Mahabharat war. It was the colossal destruction wrought by that war which shattered the universal Vedic administration and the universal sway of Sanskrit, leading to administrative fragmentation and the sprouting of local variations of Sanskrit as so many modern languages.

Ancient Superiority

Though the units of a modern army tally with those of the ancient Vedic army, in actual numerical content the armies of Vedic Kshatriyas were far superior than is suggested by an unit-wise comparison. Because while a modern section comprises of only ten individuals in uniform, its ancient equivalent the Patti consisted of one elephant with a driver (Mahout) and three archers in the howdah; the chariot which carried one driver and four archers, three horses mounted by riders, and besides, five foot men. Thus, in terms of men and animals, the smallest unit of the Vedic army consisted of one elephant, two horses yoked to the chariot and three other horses (total six animals) and four men on the elephant, five men in the chariot, three on horse-back and five footmen (total 17). Consequently, while a section of modern armies consists only of ten soldiers its ancient Vedic counterpart consisted of six animals and 17 men. That indicates how in their numerical composition the ancient Vedic armies were much bigger than modern armies.

Colossal Army

A natural question that would arise in the mind of some readers is whether such a large military force did actually exist or is it a mere poetic fancy and fantasy? The answer is that the numbers involved in the Mahabharat war are not as unrealistic as they seem at first. The 18 Akshauhini armed force massed by the Kauravas and Pandavas together represented the army of the entire world

of those times. Therefore it would be wrong to compare that army with the army of a single nation today. The proper course would be to total-up the armed forces of all the 200 to 300 nations of today and then compare that combined world military might of today with the combined world military might of the Pandavas and Kauravas of the Mahabharat times.

The Need

Another question that may arise is about the need to maintain such a gigantic military force if the world was united under one sovereign.

The answer is that no matter whether a world is governed by one ruler or is subdivided into 300 nations the military force would be proportionate to the entire population. Because even under a unitary Vedic administration the world was divided into administrative units called Kshetra. The head of the administrative division used to be termed a Kshetra-p (spelled in modern English dictionaries as 'Satrap')

Under the ancient Vedic world administration Indian and European soldiers as also soldiers from other regions were posted on duty to distant lands Similarly, Indian elephant trainers, managers and riders were in great demand everywhere.

Indian solders fought in Xerxes's army in the 6th century B.C. and Selyucus employed a large body of Indian soldiers. Hannibal's elephant - corps was from India. In the 1st century B.C. the Caesars also had an elephant brigade managed by Indian mahouts. One such contingent took part in Casear's landing in Britain. In the Circencester Museum is a 1st century A.D. statue of an Indian cavalry-man bearing the inscription ''Dannicus Eqes Ala Indiana TVR Albani'' meaning ''Indian Trooper, Dannica of the Ala Indiana, of the Regiment Albanus,'' who had served 16 years when he died in England.

Correspondingly ancient Tamil records mention ''powerful Yavanas of terrifying looks, dumb Mlenchchas wearing long coats.'' in the armies of Pandyan kings. Ancient Tamil works also mention

Roman colonies in the Tamil region and of the import of Yavan Roman Vases, lamps, lead and wire. In the battle of Ipsus (301 B.C) between Cassander and Antiqonas Cassander won a memorable victory because of his India-trained war-elephants.

The Procurator of Britain under the Romans, Julius Classicianus had an Indian wife. She was the daughter of Julius Indus. Her name was Julia Pacata Indiana. It has been the practice of Greek Roman, Arab and Iranian writers to give a local twist to the names of people or locations belonging to other lands. In that tradition the names mentioned above are hardly recognizable as Indian. This is one of the reasons why the notings left by the Greeks, Romans, Arabs and Iranians can never be regarded as good history. They had many other faults too such as making false claims. Consequently their reputation as good and prolific historians needs to be considerably keyed down. Their notings are highly misleading and must be perused with extreme caution and discrimination.

All Kshetraps had to have large military contingents at their command to maintain law and order in their respective areas.

Assuming that the ancient Vedic Kshatriyas maintained one regular soldier for every 100 persons in the population one may surmise the total population of the world in the Mahabharat times to be 100 times of the 18 akshauhini army of the Kuru princes.

Compulsory Military Training

It could even be that in the Mahabharat era every able-bodied adult (except those who were exempt on special grounds such as women, monks, priests) had to undergo compulsory military training as is the practice among Western nations today. Consequently, the number of the standing army could be quickly swelled in times of war by calling upon trained civilian adults to enlist for wartime-duties.

Cantonments

Military cantonments of the ancient universal Vedic administration may still be geographically identified. Readers may make a list of places ending with the letters 'anika' (also spelled as 'anica') around the world, such as Salonica, Veronica and Thessalanica. That end syllable 'aanika' (alias anica)' is the Sanskrit word 'anika' meaning an army.

The term Thessalanica is a mal-pronunciation of the original Sanskrit term 'Sthal-anica' signifying a military encampment. Research undertaken regarding the history of those places would reveal that they originated as military cantonments and training establishments of the ancient Vedic armies.

The term 'war' itself is of Sanskritic origin. The term 'war' is common in other Sanskritic dialects such as Marathi and Hindi, where the term 'war' means assault or attack.

Vedic Military Formations

In the Mahabharat one often hears of the belligerent armies being readied for battle in special formations known as 'Vyuha'. Luckily outlines of one such formation survive for our view on Malvern Hills in Britain. Dorothea Chaplin notes "on the hills of Malvern are the remains of British camps dating back to a pre-Roman period. Writers on the military antiquities of Britain have stated that it was a principle with the early Britons to arrange their forces in concentric circles i.e. ramparts rising one over the other, and the Hertfordshire Beacon among the Malvern Hills is a remarkable type of this mode of defence."[1]

The concentric military formation mentioned above has the special name 'Chakravyuha' in Vedic terminology. In fact the English word 'cycle' is the Sanskrit word 'chakra' alias 'chcle' as may be seen if 'y' is replaced by 'h' in the word 'cycle'. The discovery of the chakravyuha in Britain proves two things, one that the Mahabharat is a real history, and two, that Britain was very much a part of the Vedic world of those times.

The similarity or identity we are pointing out in this volume

(1) P. 13 Myth, Matter and Spirit or Keltic and Hindu Links, by Dorothea Chaplin, Rider & Co Paternoster House, Paternoster Row, London, 1935.

in most spheres of ancient and modern human activity should be considered to be merely illustrative and not exhaustive. It is our aim to convince the reader that there is nothing in this world which is non-Vedic or pre-Vedic. Therefore, our endeavour here is merely to point out the real direction of research. Those intending to take up intensive research in specific spheres should proceed deeper along these lines to discover that the Vedas constitute the original common, universal reservoir of all human activity and that even the Puranas, the Ramayan and the Mahabharat form part of that same common heritage jointly owned by all humanity much before all got separately grouped as followers of divisive cults and religions and as adherents of various linguistic groups.

In the ancient Vedic military terminology the spearhead, front centre of the army was known as Uras i.e. the Chest, the flanks were known as Kuksh, the wings were called the Paksh. Reserves were called as Pratigraha. The Vangurds were known as Koti. Troops immediately behind the Uras (i.e.the Chest-front) constituted the Madhya (i.e.Middle). Those at the rear were known as Pristha (i.e. the Back)

Battle-arrays were known as Vyuhas i. e. formations. These were numerous and of baffling variety such as Madhyabhedi (i.e. the central-thrust), Antarbhedi (internal thrust), Makar (crocodile), Bhoja, Mandala (enclave), Sarvatobhadra (symmetrical), Gomutraka, Syena, Danda, Ardhachandra (half-moon), Asambata, Soochimukha, Vajra, Abhedya, Chakra etc.

Since concentric defences of walls rising in tiers (known as Chakra-Vyuha) have been found in the Malvern Hills in Britain, other kinds of defence formations named above may also be detected during archaeological explorations around the world. Archaeologists may note this as an additional point for observation in sites already explored or yet to be explored. Tier is Sanskrit stir.

♦♦

WORLDWIDE VEDIC CULTURE

A comprehensive bird's eye-view of worldwide human activity, reveals that Vedic culture and Sanskrit language are the fountain-heads of it all.

Children's literature such as Hitopadesha and Panchatantra were not only taught worldwide in ancient times but inspired similar efforts such as Aesop's Fables in Europe and Arabian Nights in West Asia.

Literature on erotics too is obviously based on scientific Indian texts dealing with 'Ratik' alias Rati Shastra. 'Erotic' is a corruption of the Sanskrit word 'Ratik'

The word 'Sport' is a corruption of the Sanskrit word 'Spardh' signifying competing. The sports competitions of Kaurava princes described in the Mahabharat provided the model for the Greek Olympics.

Chess which has been of Vedic origin has had a worldwide following only because Vedic culture had permeated the world

Even Snakes and Ladders which is fancied to be a modern game is of hoary Vedic origin, S.Y.Wakankar, a Sanskrit scholar points out that "it is known as 'Mokshapat' of Jnanadev in Maharashtra, as 'Jhanachopat' in Gujerat, and as 'Paramapada - Sonpat in the South."[1]

The Sanskrit science of music known as 'Sangeet' was obviously

in vogue in the West as is apparent from words like 'sing', 'song' singing and singer.

As for other branches of human endeavour being of Vedic origin we have already discussed them in the other chapters of this volume.

Means of Communication

The presumption that worldwide means of communication and transport having been developed by man only in the modern age, there couldn't have been a united world in ancient times, is not true. In the Kruta, Treta and Dwapar Yugas humanity had recourse even to inter-stellar travel and communication.

In any case even in mediaeval times, great conquerors could transport their armies to distant lands by sea-craft and on horse back.

In the pre-Christian era humanity did have access to all lands around the globe. This is proved by several finds such as a naval bell with a Tamil inscription found on the sea-bed off Australia. A ship of the B.C. era with the image of Buddha on it was found under the ice-bound sea near Denmark. Ancient statues and temples and cities bearing a stamp of India and Vedic culture have been located in almost all continents and even in remote islands. References are available in history about Hindu naval experts assisting people in Africa and other continents to safely navigate the high seas.

From this it should be clear that current beliefs about Columbus discovering America or some Chinese discovering America some centuries before Columbus are mere chauvinistic guesses arising from mediaeval ignorance. Under the world Vedic administration naval lanes from India led to all parts of the world. That is why the vast stretch of the sea from South America to Australia bears the name 'Indian Ocean'. Likewise Atlantic and

(1) S.Y. Wakankar's letter published on page 64 of the quartely journal ITIHAS PATRIKA, Vol.3, No.2 dated the 26th June 1983, Shiva-Shakti, c/o Dr. Bedekar's Hospital, Naupada, Thane 400602 India.

Mediterranean are Sanskrit words. The White Sea and the Red Sea are translations of ancient Sanskrit names. Global navigation has been a Vedic heritage as is apparent from its Sanskrit terminology.

Alarum of Islamic Barbarities

In mediaeval times, India was overtaken by a period when Hindus were cautioned against venturing abroad (as one warns people to keep off riot-stricken areas). That was because tearful accounts of horried Muslim barbarities were pouring in and country after country from Arabia to Afghanistan had been terrorized into accepting Islam. That temporary caution has been misinterpreted by misguided scholars to spread the belief that Hindus were not seafarers. An emphatic rebuttal of that mistaken belief is provided by the overwhelming evidence of Hindu rule in the entire Pacific region or at least a large part of it such as Burma, Siam, Malaysia, Singapore, Borneo, Korea and Indochina.

Colonel James Tod records "That the Hindoos navigated the ocean from the earliest ages, the traces of their religion in the isles of the Archipelago sufficiently attest."[2]

Pococke states "That the people of the country of the Indus ranked as navigators, in the most venerable antiquity, is perfectly clear from the ancient Institutes of Manu, where 'merchants who traffic beyond the sea and bring presents to the king' are expressly mentioned. In the Ramayan the practice of bottomry is distinctly noticed. Heeren's **Indians** states on page 124 "In fact no law had ever forbidden this species of commerce. On the contrary the Institutes of Manu contain several regulations which tacitly allow it in giving the force of law to all commerical contracts relative to danger incurred by sea or land."'[3]

Parasuram was a great Vedic warrior who led 21 expeditions around the world to chastise Kshatriya administrators who had

(2) P. 113, Vol. 1, Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan, by Col. James Tod.
(3) P. 44, India in Greece, by E. Pococke, ibid.

become unruly in the days before Rama. In one such expedition his axe-bearing troopers overran the country we know as Persia. In Sanskrit the battle axe is known as 'Parasu'. According to Pococke (page 45 of his book) the land subdued and later governed by the Parasu-bearing troops, came to be called Paarasika, alia Persia.

The term Chaldeans, according to Pococke is the Sanskrit term Kul-Deva i.e. 'family gods' alias elders such as Devas or Brahmins. He adds "The ancient map of Persia, Colchis and Armenia, is absolutely full of the most distinct and startling evidences of Indian colonization, and what is more astonishing, practically evinces in the most powerful manner, the truth of several main points in the great Indian poems, the Ramayan and Mahabharat. The whole map is positively nothing less than a journal of immigration on the most gigantic scale."[4]

The river 'Oxus' commonly believed to bear a Greek name, is in fact the Sanskrit term OOXUS (abbreviated as 'OX' in English) meaning a bull.

On page 53 of his book Pococke observes "The European, Scandinavian and the Indian Kshatriyas, or warrior castes are identical."

In Vedic tradition Scanda, the warrior son of Lord Shiva is the Commander-in-Chief of the divine army. The latter syllable 'naviya' is a perfect Sanskrit word signifying a naval expedition and settlement. The Scandinavian region is consequently a Vedic settlement initiated by or in the name of Scand since time immemorial.

Kailas

Koilon is the heaven of the Greeks and Coelum that of the Romans. Both these derive from the Vedic term Kailas, says Pococke (Page 68 of his book).

Thessalia

The region known as Thessalia is the Sanskrit term 'Desh Shali'

(4) P.47, ibid.

i.e. the land of rice, explains Pococke (Page 92 of his book). Mount Othrys got its name from Sanskrit 'Adri-ee-sh' i.e. 'Lord of the Mountains.'

Cassopoei

Greek Cassopoei is the Sanskrit term 'Kashyapeeya' signifying a member of the Kashyap clan or a descendant of Kashyap.

Mansions All over the World.

My discoveries elucidated through several volumes such as - **Some Blunders of Indian Historical Research and Some Missing Chapters of World History** have maintained that all historic churches and so-called tombs and mosques throughout the world are captured...and misused edifices of earlier Kshatriya rulers. A remarkable confirmation of that finding is found in Pococke's observation that "The children of the great Surya (Solar) race of Northern India are throughout the world, to be recognized by their gigantic buildings, and still more distinctly by those massive walls, and great public works, which strike the beholder with astonishment alike in Rome, Italy, Greece, Peru, Egypt and Ceylon."[5] We may add that historic buildings in Cardova, Baghdad, Bokara, Samarcand, Istambul, Kabul etc. are all pre-Islamic and pre-Christian Hindu buildings.

Oriental Culture of Europe

Franz Cumont (born January 3, 1868), professor in the University of Ghent is the author of **Textes et Monuments figure's relatifs aux Mysteres de Mithra** (two volumes). Thomas J. McCormack translated the work into English as **The Mysteries of Mithra.** Cumont's other work is **Les Religions Orientales dans le Pagani su Romain.** Its English translation is **Oriental Religions** (Chicago, the Open Court Publishing Company, 1911. London agents; Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co.). Cumont describes life in Rome at a time when Christianity was only one of

(5) P. 183, India in Greece, by E. Pococke.

a numerous array of foreign religions struggling for recognition.

Grant Showerman (of the University of Wisconsin) in his introduction to the book **Oriental Religions** observes that people of the pre-Christian pagan faith in Rome "were able to hold their own and even to contest the ground with Christianity (because they) gave greater satisfaction first, to the senses and passions, secondly to the intelligence, finally, and above all to the conscience. (They had) hoary traditions and basis of science and culture, their fine ceremonial, the excitement attendant on their mysteries, their deities with hearts of compassion, their cultivation of the social bond, their appeal to conscience and their promises of purification and reward in a future life....Christianity.....took from its opponents their own weapons and used them; the better elements of paganism were transferred to the new religion."

In the preface Cumont observes "Without a doubt certain ceremonies and holidays of the church were based on pagan models. In the 4th century Christmas was placed on the 25th December, because on that date was celebrated the birth of the sun (Natalis Invicti)."

On page 2 Cumont remarks "It is in the Orient, especially in these countries of 'old civilization' that we must look for industry and riches, for technical ability and artistic productions, as well as for intelligence and science."

The great astronomers, mathematicians and physicians, like the originators or defenders of the great metaphysical systems, were mostly Orientals. Ptolemy and Plotinus were Egyptians, Porphyry and Iamblichus, Syrians, Discorides and Galen, Asiatics. All branches of learning were affected by the spirit of the Orient. "....Letters as well as science were cultivated chiefly by the Orientals....Those men of letters that were considered the purest representatives of the Greek spirit, under the empire belonged almost without exception to Asia Minor, Syria or Egypt." (Page 6) .... "Not even the important discoveries of M.de Vogue in Hauran (De Vogue and Duthoit, L' **Architecture Civile et Religiouse de**

la Syrie Centrale Paris, 1866-1877) were sufficient to prove the emptiness of a theory that was supported by our lofty conviction of European leadership. Rome, then, far from having established her suzerainty, was tributary to the Orient in this respect." (Page 8)

Christianity Destroyed Evidence of Europe's Vedic Past

....."everything is gone...we should feel this loss less keenly if we possessed the works of Greek and Latin mythographers on the subject of foreign divinities like the voluminous book published during the second century by Eusebius and Pallas on the Mysteries of Mithra. But those works were thought devoid of interest or even dangerous by the devout Middle Ages, and they are not likely to have survived the fall of paganism... *There is no period of the Roman Empire concerning which we are so little informed as the third century, precisely the one during which the oriental religions reached the apogee of their power.* From Heriodianus and Dion Cassius to the Byzantines, and from Suetonius to Ammianus Marcellinus all narratives of any importance have been lost and this deplorable blank in historic tradition is particularly fatal to the study of paganism" (Pages 12 and 13 of *Oriental Religions by Cumont.)*

Christian Ridicule of Earlier Vedic Tradition

The emergence of Christianity in Europe led to the systematic destruction of all evidence concerning ancient Vedic rites and record as cited above. To add insult to injury neo-convert Christian authors started pouring ridicule on pre-Christian traditions. Thus Juvenal laughs at the mortifications of the devotees of Isis; in his **Necromancy** Lucian parodies the interminable purifications of the Magi, and in the **Matamorphosis** Apulesius relates the various scenes of an initiation into the mysteries of Isis. Even in the **Treatise on the Syrian Goddess** Lucian describes his visit to the temple of Hierapolis and repeats his conversation with the priests only superficially. Magi is the Sanskrit term Maha-Yagee i.e. great fire-worshippers. The term Hierapolis is Sanskrit Haripur alias, city of Hari i.e. Lord Krishna.

European Blunders

European Christian-scholars have blundered in fancying that the goddesses of Phrygia, Thrace, Egypt etc. represented different religions. They all formed part of Vedic culture spread throughout the ancient world from times immemorial.

Here are some more instances of Western blunders. Sir Monier-Williams who has compiled a Sanskrit-English lexicon, has explained the term (कंचिदेक) - 'Kanchid ek' i.e. 'any one' to mean "the name of a village in Mahabharat times."

He arrived at this absurd explanation because of his incomplete understanding of an offer by Lord Krishna expressed in the Kaurava court on behalf of the Pandavas.

Therein Lord Krishna's offer was "Cede to the Pandavas Indraprastha, Vrikaprastha, Jayant, Varanavrat and any other fifth city (or region)"

There instead of realizing that that term 'Kanchid-ek' (कंचिदेक) stood for 'any other' Monier Williams presumed that 'any other' itself was the name of a city (or region). This is an error which even a schoolboy wouldn't normally commit.

A British missionary, M.A. Sherring has, in his book titled **Benares the Sacred City of the Hindus** (Introduction, Page XXI) pointed out a similar error in the understanding of simple Sanskrit by another European scholar. Sherring points out that "Professor Wilson everywhere puts erroneously" the term Kasiraj as King Kasi. Actually 'Kasiraj' signifies the ruler of the Kasi kingdom but what Wilson erroneously believed is that the term signifies Kasi as the king of (holy) cities.

Considering such instances any implicit faith in the infallibility of Western scholarship seems unwarranted.

There are also numerous instances of Western missionaries and others mischievously publishing and circulating in Europe spurious versions of the Vedas and other scriptures and denigrating them.

Therefore one has to be cautious even of Western motives, overt and covert.

But apart from such detractors and distorters of Vedic (Hindu) civilization, there have been other Western scholars who have rightly judged the ancient universality of Vedic culture. One such, Count Biornstierna observes. "No nation on earth can vie with the Hindus in respect of the antiquity of their religion. It is there (i.e.in Aryavarta) we must seek not only for the cradle of the Brahmin religion but for the cradle of high civilization of the Hindus, which gradually extended itself in the West to Ethiopia, to Egypt, to Phoenicia, in the east to Siam, to China and to Japan, in the South to Ceylon, to Java and to Sumatra, in the north to Persia, to Chaldia and to Colchis whence it came to Greece and to Rome and at length to the remote abode of the Hyperboreans."[6]

Vedic Cosmogony is Universally Retold

We have pointed out elsewhere that since Vedic culture is the ancientmost and it pervaded the whole world, the Bible, the Koran and every other scripture and every sect and community has repeated the story of the creation as revealed in the Vedic scriptures.

The Greeks, for instance, "derived their cosmogony from the Hindus as is apparent from the account which Damascius gives of the doctrine of Orpheus as under 'In the beginning Kronos (Sun) out of chaos created Oether (day) and Erbos (night). Therein he laid an egg (Brahmand) from which came Phanes furnished with three heads (the Hindu Vedic Trinity, viz. Brahma-Vishnu-Mahesh). Phanes created the man and the woman from whom the human race is derived. The cosmogony of Egyptians also adopted the Hindu egg which, divided into two, formed the heaven and the earth."[7]

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(6) P. 168, The Theogony of the Hindus, by Count Biornstierna.

(7) Bharat (India) As Seen and Known by Foreigners, by Babasaheb Deshpandey, Swadhyaya-Mandal, Killa Pardi (District: Surat) 1950.

The Koran Repeats That Same Belief

That Moses, the leader of the Jews followed the same Vedic cosmogony is apparent from the observation of count Biornstierna that "if we also recollect that the religion of the Egyptians was derived from India, we find a clue from whence Moses must partly have obtained his cosmogony and also his religious system, which like the Vedas, was constructed upon monotheistic principles."[8]

Bible and Koran Repeat Vedic Cosmogony

The cosmogony which the Muslims and Christians follow is the Buddhist while Buddhist cosmogony is Hindu which says "In the beginning the earth was unhabited, at which time the inhabitants of Heaven or Bhuvana used to visit the earth. These glorious beings consisting of men and women through the purity of their spirit, had never yet cherished any sensual desires, when Adi-Buddha (the Supreme God) infused into them the desire to take the fruit of a tree resembling the almond which excited the sensual appetite in them and they afterwards disdained to return to Bhuvana and thus became the parents of the human race. That this is the source from which the Bible and the Koran derived their common system of cosmogony, there can scarcely be any doubt. It is thus clear that every system of cosmogony whether ancient or modern owes its origin to the Hindus."[9]

Metaphysics

In the field of metaphysics, Count Biornstierna observes we find among the Hindus all the fundamental ideas of these vast systems....the principles of Pantheism, Spinogism, and Hegelianism, of God as being one with the universe; of the eternal spirit descended on earth in the whole spiritual life of mankind, of the return of the emanative sparks after death to their divine origin, of the uninterrupted alteration between life and death. All this we find among the philosophers of the Hindus."[10]

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(8) P. 144, The Theogony of the Hindus, by Count Biornstierna.
(9) Pp. 8-9, Bharat (India) As Seen and Known by Foreigners.
(10) Pp. 29-30, ibid.

Philosophy

"In respect of philosophy the Hindus were far in advance of the philosophy of Greece and Rome, who considered the immortality of the soul as problematical....the Egyptians derived their religion, mythology and philosophy from the Hindus and the Greek philosophy too was indebted almost wholly to the Hindu philosophy...the resemblance between (them) is too close to be accidental. The Hindus being far more advanced must have been the teachers and the Greeks the disciples....."[11]

World Literature and Theology also of Hindu Origin

Mr. W.D. Brown observes "By careful examination the unprejudiced mind cannot but admit that Hindu is the parent of the literature and theology of the world...Maxmuellar, Jacolliott, Sir William Jones and others have found in the ancient records of India, the strongest proofs that thence were drawn, many or nearly all the favourite dogmas which later theologians have adopted.....the ancient Hindus were...a people enjoying a measure of inspiration that might be envied by more pretentious nations...."[12]

Antiquity

About the antiquity of Hinduism alias Vedic culture, Sir James Caird noted "....some Westerners have not yet been aware that of all the nations in the world, the Hindus were the most ancient nation that was self-governed...."

The Calcutta Review of December 1861 A.D. remarked "We cannot doubt that there was a time when the Hindu race was splendid in arts and arms, happy in government, wise in legislation and eminent in knowledge. That the Hindus were in former times a commercial people we have every reason to believe. The labours of the Indian loom have been universally celebrated, silk has been fabricated immemorially by the Hindus. We are also told by the

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(11) Pp. 27-33, ibid.
(12) Pp. 13-14, Bharat (India) As Seen and Known by Foreigners.

Grecian writers that the Indians were the wisest of nations, and in metaphysical wisdom they were certainly eminent; in astronomy and in mathematics they were equally well-versed. This is the race who Dionysius records, first assayed the deep, and wafted merchandize to coasts unknown, those who digested first the starry choir, their motions, and marked and called them by their names. Hindustan has from the earliest ages been celebrated as one of the most highly favoured countries on the globe and as abounding in the choicest production both of nature and art." [13]

India The Cradle of Humanity

The eminent French writer, Cruiser observed "If there is a country on earth which can firstly claim the honour of having been the cradle of the human race or at least the scene of primitive civilization, the successive developments of which were carried into all parts of the ancient world....the blessings of knowledge which is the second life of man, that country is India." [14]

Another thinker Victor Cousin similarly observes, "In the philosophical monuments of India we discover so many truths and truths so profound, making a contrast with the meanness of the results at which European genius has sometimes stopped, that we are constrained to bend the knee before that of the East and to see in this cradle of the human race the native land of the highest philosophy." [15]

Hinduism - A World Faith

It is not generally realized that from the beginning of humanity upto the rise of Christianity every human being was a Hindu, i.e. a follower of Vedic culture. This gets obliquely admitted in the numerous citations given above and in Greek writer Ctesias's remark "that the Hindus were as numerous as all the other nations put

(13) Pp. 14-15, ibid.
(14) P. 17, Bharat (India) As Seen and Known by Foreigners.
(15) Pp. 16-17, ibid.

together." [16]

The foregoing remark would imply that of the entire world population in Ctesias's time about 50 per cent were Hindus, and the remaining 50 per cent non-Hindus. That is, however, not true because in ancient times there was no other faith except Vedic. Writers who believe that ancient society was divided between several cults apart from Hinduism are mistaken. Those cults were all parts of worldwide Hinduism.

M.Delbos, a French savant realizing the omnipresence of the Vedic, Hindu civilization remarked "The influence of that civilization worked out thousands of years ago in India, is round and about us, everyday of our lives. It pervades every corner of the civilized world. Go to America and you find it there as in Europe, the influence of that civilization, which came originally from the banks of the Ganges." [17]

The Edingburgh Review of October 1872 observes : "The Hindu is the most ancient nation of which we have valuable remains and has been surpassed by none in refinement and civilization. Though the utmost pitch of refinement to which it ever arrived preceded in time the dawn of civilization in any other nation of which we have even the name in history, the further other inquiries are extended here, the more vast and stupendous is the scene which opens to us."

Need for World Vedic Administration

Swami Vivekananda, a well-known Vedic scholar once rightly remarked "My idea is the conquest of the whole world by the Hindu race." [18]

That is a very significant expression of far-reaching, uncanny implication. We have already explained elsewhere that Hinduism

(16) P. 220, Vol. II, Historical Researches.
(17) P. 18, Bharat (India) As Seen And Known by Foreigners.
(18) P. 6, Hindu, Life-Line of India, by G. M. Jagtiani, Bombay, 1983.

is not a race. It is a culture which anyone and, in fact, everyone should adopt. Hindusim is a special outlook on life "to live and let live" so that everybody's life should come to fruition and fulfilment. This could only be possible if the world is administered under Hindu principles, as it was from the beginning of time upto the Mahabharat war. Swami Vivekanand's remark unwittingly, nostalgically recalls those ancient times when Hindu thought did, in fact, govern world polity.

Hinduism is a spiritual democracy in which each individual is afforded full freedom to be anything from a devout theist to a determined atheist or being in between. Every individual is free to choose his own prophet and mode of worship. The only negative expectation from every Hindu is that he must not impinge on anybody's spiritual freedom and must not impose any special mode of worship or prayer on an unwilling person. That is why orthodox Hinduism has never favoured forcible conversions. But these days when Christians and Muslims are overtly and covertly undermining that rule and coercing or tempting people to join their repressive and suppressive ranks Hinduism finds it politically necessary to be firm and assertive in countering that threat to usher the rule of spiritual freedom throughout the world and reconvert people to Hinduism.

Despite being threatened and undermined on all sides Hinduism will triumph is what its incarnations and holy men have prophesied. Lord Krishna has said (एष धर्मः सनातनः) "This culture is eternal." Naturally, because it is divine. The late yogi (Aurobindo) Arvind Ghosh observed that Hinduism "is not such a weak and fluffy thing as to be easily stamped out"[19] because it is so firmly rooted in millions of bosoms.

Describing that spiritual speciality of India the late poet, Dr. Ravindranath Thakur (Rabindranath Tagore) observed "with all your poverty, misery and wretchedness, I love you (India) best

(19) P.14, ibid.

(because) you India have taught the King to give up worldly riches and live a simple life (That is what the Buddha, and Bhartrihari and Ashok and Harshawardhan did). You have taught the hero to show mercy to the (vanquished) enemy on the field of battle (that is what Hindu warriors have time and again done to a fault against treacherous Muslim invaders). You have preached the message of disinterested work and service (that is the central message of the celebrated Bhagavad Gita). You have taught the householder to expand his home and include in it neighbours, friends, relatives, guests, refugees, the poor and the needy. You have taught the lesson of self-restraint in the enjoyment of life."[20]

Those are indeed the specialities of Vedic culture. Under it a person has to regard himself as an instrument of God, a servant of the rest of the world and not as an arrogant, self-indulgent exploitative tyrant.

Significance of the Vedic Flag

Those ideals of Hinduism alias Vedic culture are fully epitomised in the Vedic flag. its colour is saffron or orange. Flags of the same colour flutter from every temple-pinnacle. They also flutter from royal camps and Hindu places. And Hindu monks too wear apparel of the same colour. That shows how the virtues of sanctity, and renunciation and service to the needy and protection of the weak are impressed on the Hindu mind from prince to pauper. The Hindu, Vedic orange flag does not stand for coercive victories for exploitation, enjoyment, dissipation and aggrandizement but to usher the rule of purity, protection and service. No other flag in the world represents that tradition and those ideals.

Therefore it should be the earnest duty of everybody to zealously guard and uphold the dignity, security and majesty of Hinduism. Without Hinduism there will be no spirituality and no freedom left. Their place will be taken by naked lust for self-aggrandizement, coercion, tyranny, enslavement and luxuries. For both Christianity

(20) P. 16, ibid

and Islam slavery was an important branch of commerce. All such sects and religions are bound to vie to finish the others first and when there is no rival left the Muslims will kill each other as has been amply demonstrated by the struggle for the Caliphate and for every Muslim throne in the world.

About the antiquity of the Vedas and consequently of Vedic culture Maxmuellar observes: "In the Rigved we shall have before us more real antiquity than in all the inscriptions of Egypt or Nineveh....the Veda is the oldest book in existence...."[21]

About the antiquity and historical importance of ancient Sanskrit scriptures, Maxmuellar remarks that the "historical records (of the Hindus) extend in some respects so far beyond all records and have been preserved to us in such perfect and such legible documents, that we can learn from them lessons which we can learn nowhere else and supply missing links."[22]

About the importance of the Vedas in particular Maxmuellar notes "the Veda has a two-fold interest : it belongs to the history of the world and to the history of India. In the history of the world the Vedas fill a gap which no literary work in any other language could fill. It carries us back to times of which we have no records anywhere..."[23]

"About the divine origin of Vedic civilization, the well-known German philosopher Augustus Schlegel notes : "It cannot be denied that the early Indians possessed a knowledge of God. All their writings are replete with sentiments and expressions, noble, clear, severly grand, as deeply conceived in any human language in which men have spoken of their God." ......[24]

Another German thinker, Schopenhaur has also similarly remarked that "In the whole world there is no study so beneficial

(21) P. 567, History of Ancient Sanskrit Literature.
(22) P. 21, India-What it can Teach Us.
(23) P. 63, History of Sanskrit Literature.
(24) Wisdom of the Ancient Indians

and so elevating as that of the Upanishads. It has been the solace of my life (and) it will be the solace of my death."[25]

Mr. Thornton observes in his History of British India "The Hindus are indisputably entitled to rank among the most ancient of existing nations, as well as among those most early and most rapidly civilized....ere yet the Pyramids looked down upon the Valley of the Nile....when Greece and Italy, these cradles of modern civilization, housed only the tenants of the wilderness, India was the seat of wealth and grandeur."

Professor Weber points out "We are fully justified in regarding the literature of India as the most ancient literature, of which written records of an extensive scale have been handed down to us."[26]

Dr. Mrs. Annie Besant, an English woman, who was a close associate of Indian leaders during India's struggle for freedom from British rule in the early years of the 20th century, said "After a study of some forty years and more of the great religions of the world, I find none so perfect, none so scientific, none so philosophic, and none so spiritual as the great religion known by the name of Hinduism. The more you know it the more you will love it, the more you try to understand it, the more deeply you will value it. Make no mistake without Hinduism, India has no future. Hinduism is the soil into which India's roots are struck, and torn of that she will inevitably wither, as a tree torn out from its place. Many are the religions and many are the races flourishing in India, but none of them stretches back into the far dawn of her past, nor are they necessary for her endurance as a nation. Everyone might pass away as they came and India would still remain. But let Hinduism vanish and what is she ? A geographical expression" of the past, a dim memory of a perished glory, her literature, her art, her monuments, all have Hindudom written across them. And if Hindus do not maintain Hinduism, who shall save it ? If India's own children do not cling to her faith, who

(25) P. 61, The Upanishads, Introduction.
(26) P. 4, History of Indian Literature, 1882.

shall guard it ? India alone can save India, and India and Hinduism are one." [27]

Those are memorable words. The commitment of all people and leaders, not only of India but of the whole world, should be to save and preserve Hinduism. Because India and Hinduism are like parents of the world. Without India and Hinduism the rest of the world will be but a chaotic orphanage. The world can well afford to live without the Bible and the Koran but without the Vedas, the Upanishads, the Purans, the Ramayan, Mahabharat, and the Bhagawad Geeta, Yoga and Sanskrit language humanity will be without its soul and spiritual life-line.

(27) Inner cover quotation, Hindus, Life-Line of India, by G. M. Jagtiani.

MANU SMRITI

Manu Smriti is a code of conduct laid out for all human beings to follow from the time of creation.

That code is based on the Vedas. The Vedas constitute a body of fundamental knowledge concerning the cosmos, conferred by divinity on mankind at the beginning of the creation.

The tendency of Western and Westernized scholars, therefore, to date the Manu Smriti somewhere between 800 B.C. and 400 A.D. is deplorable.

Modern Western scholars are also hard-put to explain the significance of the word Smriti.

All concerned should realize that the term Smriti has numerous connotations.

It implies a 'remembrance' that this creation is sustained and governed by divinity. It also implies another admonitionary 'remembrance' that there is no escape from the rules laid down in the code. The word Smriti also implies the warning 'Let every human being remember that any lapse from the norms laid down in the code, will meet with due retribution at the proper time in the cycle of life'. Another implication of the term Manu Smriti is that it is a code revived after every Flood, to guide human conduct.

Since Manu Smriti is a code as old as the creation itself, its

available-editions have kept changing in language and tone according to the special conditions of every age, just as text books of say, geography and mathematics keep changing with every generation though their subject-matter remains constant.

The Manu Smriti available to us has 12 chapters comprising 2684 stanzas. In some editions however, the stanzas number 2794 or 1695.

One of these editions is printed in 1877. Another is of 1907. A third has Kulakbhatta's commentary. The additional 10 or 11 stanzas found in some copies make no difference to its import.

Its first chapter describes the functioning of the cosmos within a specified time-cycle as divided into pre-determined aeons and sub-eras, and the four classes of human beings created according to their inborn propensities. The second chapter lays down the rules for the nurture and training of the adolescent child. The third chapter deals with weddings and obsequial rituals. The fourth chapter lays down the duties of the house-holder and his diet and describes 21 types of hell. The fifth chapter continues the topic of proper diet and discusses feminine life. The sixth chapter deals with Vanaprastha and Sannyasa i.e. life of detachment and renunciation prescribed for the superannuated. The seventh chapter deals with monarchial duties. The eighth chapter, which is the longest, deals with lapses, crimes and chastisement. The ninth chapter deals with succession to property-rights. The tenth chapter is concerned with unorthodox marital relations. The eleventh chapter discusses sin and its atonement. The 12th chapter deals with three psychic tendencies of men, pays tribute to the Vedas and describes rebirths resulting from sin.

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THE ANCIENT SANSKRIT ATLAS

Geographical proof is also available to indicate that humanity's primordial heritage has been Vedic, and with the Vedas was inherited the divine language, Sanskrit.

Sanskrit Atlas

The ancientmost atlas of the world will be seen to be all Sanskrit. Professional geographers making a more exhaustive study may deal with this theme in more detail. Here we propose to give only broad indications of the direction of research.

It may be that a region or a city has borne several alternative names at different times of its chequered history. In such a case some of the names may seem to be non-Sanskrit modern adaptations imparted by some twists of history. There the ancientmost names of those places would be found to be classic Sanskrit.

India the Centre

It may be noted here at the outset that terms like 'far east', 'east', 'middle east', 'west', 'far west', have all been coined with relation to India as the centre of a spherical world. The International Date-line follows that ancient demarcation. This is one indication among several that the world Vedic civilization had its origin in India. Sages and seers of this civilization fanned out from India all over the world. That could have been a mere accident or coincidence. Even so it is a fact of history which is to be reckoned with.

Austrailaya

Let us now begin our sample-survey from the far east. Australia

is the term Astralaya i.e. a land of missiles. It got that name because it was the producing or practising ground for the devastating missiles used in the Ramayana and Mahabharat wars.

Since Rama, the hero of the Ramayanic war and Krishna, the guiding spirit of the Mahabharat war are described as Trailokya Nath (i.e. Lord of three worlds) and also because inter-stellar visits and spacecraft are repeatedlly mentioned in those two-epics it is apparent that the elite of the Treta and Dwapar (and of course of the earlier Kruta Yug) were more scientifically advanced and capable than us of the 20th century A.D. It is improper to decry those claims as imaginative because our perspective of this age may be totally inadequate and misleading in assessing the human capabilities of bygone eras.

Australia alias Astralaya has been reduced to a desert precisely because devastating missiles were tried out there.

Sunda

The Straits of Sunda in the Pacific, to the north of Australia are an ancient name since they find a mention in the Ramayana. 'Sunda' in Sanskrit, signifies the elephant's trunk.

Cheen

China often finds a mention as CHEEN in ancient Sanskrit classics such as the Mahabharata. In predictive astrological compendiums China is sometimes mentioned as the Mooshak Khand.

Nipun

The indigenous, ancient name of Japan is Nippon which is the Sanskrit name 'Nipun' meaning 'dexterious'

Shibireeya

The Siberian region of Russia, is the Sanskrit appellation 'Shibir' (alias Shibireeya) meaning a region of encampments. The inhospitable climatic conditions of the region compel people there to reside only in temporary encampments, and return to other regions for permanent habitation; hence the name Shibireeya alias Siberia.

Rusheeya

The term Russia is the Sanskrit word 'Rusheeya' signifying a country of Rushees i.e. sages.

The term 'Soviet' is the Sanskrit term 'Svet' meaning 'white' since it is a land of snow. Moscow (city and river) is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit word Moksha i. e. salvation which was the goal of Vedic sages.

Pra-Russiya

Adjoining Russia is Prussia which is Sanskrit pra-Rusheeya i.e. an extension of the Rushi region. Germany's name Deutschland is Daitya Sthan signifying Daitya land, an ancient Sanskrit-speaking Vedic community which colonized Europe.

Daitya

The Dutch also derive their name from the 'Daitya' clan. The 'tya' termination of Sanskrit changes to 'ich' as Brihad-Aditya township in the Uttar Pradesh region of India is currently called Bhairaich.

This gives us a clue to trace the Sanskrit names of places in Europe or elsewhere which end in ich such as Ipswich.

Ramaneeya

Romania is the Sanskrit word 'Ramaneeya' meaning 'scenic' or 'attractive'.

Syria-Assyria

Syria and Assyria are Sanskrit Suriya and Asuriya.

Sringary

Hungary is Sringary because in some regions and dialects 'h' gets substituted for the Sanskrit letter 's'. Sringary signifies a hilly, forest region. Hungary is just that.

Scand Naveeya

Scandinavia is the Sanskrit term Scand-Naveeya. Scand, the son of Lord Shiva, is the commander-in-chief of the Gods. Navia alias 'Naveeya' signifies his naval establishment.

Austria is the Sanskrit term Austreeya signifying a land of astras i. e. missiles.

Shunda-Mark

The name Denmark derives from Shunda and Mark, two priests of the Vedic Danu community forming a pair; Danes are Danus.

Sweden and Norway, known locally as 'Sverige and Norge' are Sanskrit words, Swarga and Narka signifying the legendary higher world and the nether world alias heaven and hell

Belgium is the Sanskrit compound Belam-ajeyam connoting a people of unconquerable strength.

Bulgaria is the Sanskrit compound signifying a country and people of high-calibre strength (Bal-gareeya).

Italy alias Etruria derives its name from the Vedic sage Atri who had his Vedic hermitage school in what is now the Vatican.

Lakshmi Durg

Luxemburg is the Sanskrit name 'Luxmi (alias Lakshmi) Durg, meaning the Citadel of Goddess Lakshmi (the Vedic goddess of wealth).

Galav

Gaul, the ancient name of France derives from sage Galav of the Vedic tradition, who had his Vedic hermitage school on the banks of the Seine.

Brihat Sthan

Britain is a corruption of the Sanskrit term Brihat-sthan i.e. 'the great isles'. England is 'Anguli-Sthan', i.e. a finger-size, finger-length country.

It may thus be seen that European regional names are all Sanskrit. Consequently personal names and the names of townships must also be Sanskrit.

Amereesha

America ought to be pronounced as Amerisa alias Amereesha if 'c' is allowed to retain its alphabetical pronunciation. In numerous English words 'c' originally pronounced as 's' came to be pronounced as 'k' later. Amareesh signifies the 'Immortal Lord.'

Kanada

Canada derives its name from the ancient Vedic scholar-philosopher and nuclear scientist Kanaada.

Indian Ocean

Let us now consider the names of some oceans. The vast stretch of the sea extending from South America to Australia is known as the Indian Ocean though India is comparatively a very tiny country tucked-up insignificantly above that ocean among other land masses. Yet its name attaches to that vast sea only because the Indian fleet cruised in unchallengeable supremacy in that region. As against this, one may notice how, in our own days, Indonesia, Persia and Arabia are striving hard to have the neighbouring small gulfs and seas to be named after their own countries.

Mediterranean

Mediterranean is the Sanskrit term (मध्य धरणीय) 'Madhya-Dharaneeya' i.e. (a sea) in the middle of the (spherical) globe or the two land masses of Africa and Europe.

The 'Red Sea' is a translation of the Sanskrit term (लोहित सागर) 'Lohit - Sagar' referred to in the Ramayana, a million-year ancient Vedic epic.

The 'White Sea' is the translation of the Sanskrit term (क्षीर-सागर) 'Ksheer Sagar' i.e. the milky ocean because being snowbound it

looks white.

The 'Atlantic' is the compound Sanskrit term 'A-tal-antica (अ-तल-अंतिक) a 'bottomless sea.'

Alpas

The snow-bound Alps ranges get their name (अल्पस्) 'Alpas' i.e. 'small' from the fact that the Himalayas constitute their big brother. The Alps can be accommodated in just one pocket of the Himalayas as they say. It is the Himalayas which claimed all attention from Vedic culture as the very embodiment, acme and apex of peaceful, spiritual height, might and repose. Consequently its miniature counterpart in Europe was looked upon by the ancient Vedic civilization as Alp Himalaya i.e. the miniature Himalaya. In course of time the term Himalaya was dropped as repetitious and the adjective 'Alpas' alias 'Alps' came to be retained as a noun and a proper name of the European snow-bound mountain-range signifying a younger brother of the Himalayas.

Urugavah

Uruguay gets its name from Lord Vishnu who is also known as Urugavah (उरुगाव:) in Sanskrit.

Bhuvaneswari

Beunos Aires is Bhuvaneswari, the cosmic goddess.

Gautamalaya

Guatemala is Gautamalaya, the abode of Gautam which is a sacred Sanskrit name.

Mali-Sumali

Mali and Sumali are two African countries named after the relations of Ravan, who escaped from Lanka at the time of Ravan's rout and death at Rama's hands.

Pulastin

Palestine gets its name from Pulastin, a revered sage, some

of whose progeny turned out to be cruel demons. The English word Phillistine signifying an uncultured quarrelsome person, is derived from the above-mentioned tradition of the descendants of Pulastin. This is a singular proof that all mythology of Vedic culture has been a world heritage and not of India alone, because Vedic culture permeated the entire world from the beginning of time.

The Altai

The Altai meaning 'the golden mountain' is a local translation of its ancient Sanskrit name 'Sumeru'.

Prague

The capital of Czechoslovakia is these days pronounced as Praha. But its spelling 'Prague' indicates that its ancient name was Prag-Jyotish-pur, a city hallowed in Hindu, Vedic legends.

Indies

That so many distant regions, towns and people derive their names from India even upto our own times such as West Indies, East Indies, Indochina, Indonesia, Indiana, Indianapolis and Red Indians indicates that the name of India reverberated all around the globe through the ages because India has been the hub and headquarters of the worldwide Vedic civilization.

Rivers

Danube derives its name from the term Danav alias Daitya. The Danavas lived and governed the regions surrounding that river, hence the river acquired the name Danav. It is that term which is being currently mis-spelled as Danube.

The Nile partly retains its ancient Sanskrit name 'Neel Saraswati' alias 'Neel Ganga'. Later the name was abbreviated to 'Neel' which came to be spelled as 'Nile'

The river Seine in Paris, was Sindhu, a famous Sanskrit name. The French mannerism of dropping the last consonant made them pronounce it merely as Seine.

The Thames in England is a corruption of the Sanskrit name Tamasa.

Bosphorus

The Bosphorus region derives its name from Bhasmasuras, a tyrannical Daitya ruler mentioned in Hindu legends.

A close analysis of the ancient Sur-Asur rivalry and war of attrition recorded in ancient Sanskrit scriptures will be found useful, as illustrated above in explaining numerous topographical terms throughout the world. This is yet one more proof of the ancient worldwide sway of Vedic culture.

German currency Mark gets its name from Mark the priest of the Deutsch i. e. Daitya clan.

March

Research along these lines could lead to a reconstruction of the entire ancient Sanskrit atlas.

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THE WORLD KEEPS VEDIC TIME

The uniform worldwide tradition of time-measurement and the Sanskrit terminology associated with it, is yet another emphatic proof of the prevalence of a uniform, unitary Vedic culture throughout the world from time immemorial.

The Hindu alias Vedic almanac is the ancientmost because it adheres to the Srushti-Samvat i.e. the time-computation from the creation of the cosmos. Nothing can be more ancient.

The Sankalpa

What is more, anybody undertaking any Vedic ritual at any time in any part of the world has to recall and repeat the entire computation of the aeons, eras, years and days that have passed from the moment of the creation to the day of the ritual. Thus a continual, up-to-date, day-to-day computation uttered through billions of mouths down the ages, day-in and day-out, all over the world, has ensured an unerring tally of eternal time. A quick review of the cosmic time-tally is part of the **Sankalpa** uttered at Vedic rituals.

There is also another genealogical counterpart included in the **Sankalpa**. The person undertaking the ritual has to loudly proclaim the names of his father, grandfather and great grandfather, the name of his family, the name of the patron sage of his ancestors, the town or village in which he is performing the ritual and the region and continent in which that place is located in the context

of global geography. Can anything be more perfect, more thorough, more frequent, more universal and more publicized than this? The Vedic Sankalpa is a combined historical-cum-geographical proclamation-cum-recapitulation enjoined on anyone undertaking any and every ritual almost everyday throughout the year and throughout his life. It summarizes in a short and quick review every individual's own locus standi in the context of the time-space continuum. To ignore such a masterly, open, public book-keeping system which has come down to us in an unbroken trail from the time of the Vedas (i.e. from the time of creation) through the Kruta, Treta and Dwapar down to the present Kali Yug, and speculate that humanity must have evolved from monkeys or that the world was created in 4004 B.C. or that the Vedas are rustic ballads composed between 1200 and 700 B.C. is unhistorical, to say the least.

People retaining the Vedic tradition are currently identified as Hindus. And since Vedic-tradition has been a world-heritage every human being is, in a way, a Hindu, in modern parlance.

It is that Vedic tradition which has been keeping a continuous tally of the time-dimension of the cosmos namely of the time that has elapsed and the period that lies ahead before the next cataclysmic end of worldly life.

Of the current Kali era 5097 years have elapsed. Even of that stretch of time present-day scholars know a bare, dented outline of history only of the last about 2000 years. Of the balance 3097 anterior years they know next to nothing.

It was during that remote antiquity that the world had a unitary administration of Kshatriyas trained to govern the world under the Vedic socio-political system.

It was during that long stretch of universal administration that a uniform time-calculation system and terminology was introduced. The World still sticks to it and yet very few seem to be aware of it.

The word Time itself is a corruption of the Sanskrit word 'Samay' That was pronounced as 'Tamay.' and later as 'Time.'

Take the word 'calendar' itself. That is the Sanskrit word 'Kalantar' (कालान्तर) which signifies a chart detailing the divisions of time (namely the day, week, month and year).

Likewise the word clock is Sanskrit 'Kala-Ka' (काल-क) i.e. a recorder-cum-indicator of time.

Let us now start from the split-second to find out how the entire time-computation around the world is all of the Vedic tradition.

The 60 second, 60 minute calculation is Vedic mathematics because according to the Vedic computation 60 vipalas make one 'pala' and 60 'palas' make one 'ghati' (i.e. 24 minutes). The word 'second' itself is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit word 'Kshan' (क्षण)

The term 'hour' is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit word (होरा) 'hora' (which is made up of 2 1/2 ghatis)

The word 'day' is the corrupt form of the Sanskrit word 'din' (दिन)

All the days of the week too follow the order laid down by Vedic tradition wherein each day is named after the members of our solar system in a specified order. For instance, Sunday (the day named after the Sun) follows Saturday (the day of Saturn). Monday (which is Moonday) follows Sunday and so on.

The whole world couldn't have followed this system without the slightest egoistic or chauvinistic murmur from anywhere, had it not been subject to a common Vedic administration.

After the week comes the month. The division of the year into 12 parts (each of which is known as a month, corresponding to the twelve zodiacal signs) is devised by the Vedic system and is unquestioningly followed all over the world.

It is sometimes believed and argued that the year consisted of 10 months in some parts of the world. That belief is based

on a misunderstanding. The Vedic year began with the vernal equinox in March and consisted of 12 months. Later Christianity made December 31 as the last day of the year. That made people believe that the year which began with March and ended with December comprised of just ten months. Those who have been believing that there has been such a 10-month computation have not ascertained whether each month then consisted of $36\frac{1}{2}$ days, to account for all the 365 days of the year.

The names September, October, November and December are the Sanskrit words (सप्तांबर) Saptamber, (अष्टांबर) Ashtamber, (नवांबर) Navamber and (दशांबर) Dashambar where (अंबर) 'ambar' is the Sanskrit term for the Zodiac while the numbers (सप्त) 'sapta', (अष्ट) 'ashta', (नव) 'nava' and (दश) 'dasha, signify the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th months respectively.

If the remaining eight months are not easily identifiable as Sanskrit that is because history always leaves ruins in its wake for various reasons. It is like an old man whose teeth have wide gaps. The two rows of well-set teeth of his childhood do not remain intact as age advances. But the remaining teeth and the dented gums do lead to the conclusion that once the man did have a full set of teeth.

The same may be said of the months. From the four months still clearly identifiable as Sanskrit it can be safely deduced that the remaining eight months too had Sanskrit names.

Among the others a few more can still be identified as Sanskrit on a closer look. The name Januarius is the original name, of which January is an abbreviation. Here it may be recalled that in Latin the name of God Ganesh came to be spelled as Janus. That God used to be worshipped in Rome on January 9. And since Lord Ganesh is traditionally offered worship at the opening of every ritual or the commencement of any period or task, the Romans ordained that the month of the festival of Lord Ganesh be reckoned as the first. Consequently they amended the traditional start of the year and reckoned it as beginning from January 1.

So even the January beginning of the year is rooted in the Vedic tradition of Ganesh worship. Even the name Januarius misbelieved to be Latin is the Sanskrit term 'Gana-raya-eash' (गणरायईश) signifying Lord Ganesh.

The name of the succeeding month February was spelled by the Romans as Februarius. That is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit word Pravaresh. From the Sanskrit word 'Pitar' changing to 'father' in European pronunciation we know that European 'f' replaces Sanskrit 'p'. Consequently Februarius was (प्रवरेश) Pravaresh. (प्रवर) Pravar in Sanskrit signifies a sage. So the term Pravaresh alias Februarius signified God as the Lord of the sages.

The term March is from (मरीचि) 'Marichi'-one of the Sanskrit names of the Sun. Since that month marks the beginning of longer days alias a kind of waxing of the sunlight hours it was named after the Sun. Another explanation is that March signified a start i.e. marching orders. Since in ancient practice the beginning of the year coincided with that period, the opening month was named March.

These clues should help scholars to trace the Vedic origin of the terms April, May, June and July or their earlier Sanskrit substitutes. It could be that May is named after Maya i.e. illusion (in Sanskrit), the Holy Spirit which consorted with the Creator to create the cosmos.

It is commonly believed that the name July originates from Julius Caesar and Augustus from Augustus Caesar. These could be explanations concocted by latter-day scholars. Muslim and Christian histories bristle with such concoctions. By that token other Roman emperors too should have had the remaining ten months named after themselves. Were they less egoistic or ambitious?

The term August and even the imperial name 'Augustus' derive from Sage Agastya (अगस्त्य), an ancient seer and Vedic scholar of world renown who was known for his impressive personality. The term 'august personality' and 'august presence' derive from that sage. That Agastya had a world impact is additional proof that

the Vedas were revered and recited all over the world in ancient times.

Even the Sanskrit term 'mas' (मास) signifying a month is still used in Europe. The European terms Christmas and Michaelmas signify the months in which celebrations concerning Christ (alias Chrisn) and Michael are observed. Michael is Sanskrit Mukul

European scholars are so oblivious of the Sanskrit meaning of the term 'mas' (month) that they equate Christmas with only one day i.e. December 25 and Michaelmas also only with one day, namely September 29.

Equating the term 'Christmas' with one day i.e. December 25, and also sometimes with a whole week (December 25 to 31) is a terminological and mathematical absurdity because the Sanskrit term (दसम्बर) December signifies the entire tenth month. This is due to the present ignorance of the ancient worldwide prevalence of Vedic, Sanskrit traditions.

This is a graphic pointer to the enormously long period that has elapsed from the time the Europeans lost touch with their Vedic origins. Their proselytization as Christians pulled them further away from their Vedic roots. Whatever we say in this volume, about Christians applies equally to Mahomedans. They too were forcibly torn away from their Vedic moorings.

This brings us, incidentally, to the erudite compilers of the Oxford and Webster's dictionaries. Those dictionaries explain Christmas as Christ's birthday. They seem to be blissfully unaware that even in their own language the suffix 'mas' does not signify a birthday. How then could Christmas mean Christ's birthday? Had the suffix 'mas' signified a birthday we should have seen everybody celebrating birthdays inviting his near and dear ones to attend his "mas."

The other mistake the dictionary-makers make is in explaining the term 'X'mas. Since Christian tradition has dinned into them that the terms Christmas and X'mas are synonymous, European

dictionaries explain that X'mas is an abbreviation of the term 'Christmas' inasmuch as 'X' is the symbol representing 'Christ' and 'mas' is his birthday.

This explanation is untenable. We have already shown that the term 'mas' never signifies a birthday in European parlance. Similarly nowhere in Christian tradition does 'X' symbolize Christ. Could anyone imagine one Christian writing to another using the symbol 'X' wherever he wishes to mention Jesus or swear in the name of Jesus Christ? For instance could one write 'Jesus X' to mean Jesus Christ? Anybody reading such a letter would conclude that 'X' represents some secret, missing, unmentionable word.

In fact the term X'mas could as well be written as Y'mas or Z'mas for all the Christians care or know. Because if Christ could be represented by the algebrical symbol 'X' he could as well be represented by 'Y' or 'Z.'

This illustration is a measure of the world's ignorance about ancient history. Most people are content to swallow unquestioned all they are taught at school or college. It is only with the help of Sanskrit and Vedic tradition that we can unravel and rationally explain the terms Christmas and 'X' mas.

The Roman numeral 10 is written as 'X' while the Sanskrit word 'mas' signifies a 'month'. Therefore the term X'mas signifies the 10th month. Correspondingly the term December also signifies the 10th month. Thus X'mas is a brief expression in figure of the term December meaning the 10th month.

The term Christmas (alias Chrisnmas) also signifies the entire month as symbolizing or commemorating Christ alias (Chrisn).

Thus X' mas, Christmas and December are synonyms. And yet erring, blundering European Christian tradition deviates from the above mathematical, philological equation to assert that X'mas is 25th December, X' mas week alias Christmas week is from December, 25 to 31, and December is from the 1st to its 31st day. The term Christmas is in fact a European corruption of the Sanskrit term Chrisnmas (कृष्णमास). Even in India Chrisn is pronounced

as Christ (and Vishnu as Vishtu) in several regions. Therefore, what was traditionally celebrated as Chrisn-mas in the West, was after the propagation of Christianity deftly changed to Christmas.

December was observed as Chrisn-mas because Chrisn has mentioned in the Bhagavad Geeta that of all months Margasheersh (i.e. December) represents Him.

That is why the commemoration in churches throughout the world, to the chime of bells, at the stroke of midnight (on December 25) is that of Chrisn and not of Christ. The midnight hour is the precise time of Krishna's birth. Besides no person called Jesus Christ ever existed.

Chrisnmas (कृष्णमास) has been so named in Vedic tradition also because that is the last month of long, dark nights and the word Krishna signifies darkness too.

That month has been named after Lord Chrisn (Krishna) also because the Mahabharat war ended in December and after its great carnage Lord Chrisn emerged from it as an incarnation and the cynosure of all eyes.

In our own day September ranks as the ninth month though its Sanskrit name proclaims it to be the seventh month. What explains this anomaly?

September could be the seventh month only if March is counted as the first month. And actually all around the ancient world, in Rome, in England etc. the year began only in March. It was only from 1752 A.D. that England formally switched on to January 1 as the New Year Day by an act of Parliament. Earlier its New Year Day used to be march 25.

According to the Vedic lunar calculation the New Year Day varies from year to year somewhere around March 25. It does not conform to any specific solar date. Apparently, therefore, the last time when England broke away from the Vedic tradition the lunar, Vedic New Year Day fell on March 25. That is why England continued to observe that date as the New Year Day.

This provides a very good clue to detect when England actually broke away from Vedic tradition and permanently adopted March 25 as the New Year Day. It should be found out with retrospective astronomical calculations as to in which year or years in the dim past, did the Vedic New Year Day coincide with March 25? One of those could be determined from other evidence as the year in which England last observed March 25 as the atronomical Vedic lunar New Year Day.

Likewise since Rome observed March 15, as the New Year Day it may be calculated as to which was the year (or years) in which March 15 coincided with the vernal equinox i.e. the start of the Vedic lunar New Year Day.

That will enable us to determine the year upto which Rome adhered to the Vedic lunar year practice before switching on to the stiff March 15 as the New Year Day.

The importance of Ides of March in Roman tradition was due to the worship of the Vedic Goddess Annapoorna (i.e. the Goddess of plentitude of food) at the start of the year. It was attended with feasting and rejoicing and public holiday and worship of the Goddess in tastefully decorated pandals. That Goddess now stands Christianized as Anna Perina.

Even the word 'Ide' is Sanskrit 'eed' (ईड) meaning 'worship'. Arabic tradition still retains that original Sanskrit pronunciation, since even in Islamic tradition the term 'eed' alias 'id' signifies a day of worship. Even the Roman word 'ide' if phonetically pronounced should sound as 'eed'. Its current pronunciation 'eyed' is a distortion.

The worldwide tradition of considering the year to begin in March as per Vedic practice is a clear indication of the prevalence of a unitary Vedic administration throughout the world in ancient times. Thus throughout the world time is computed even today from the split-second to the year according to the Vedic system as explained above. Likewise the terminology associated with it is also all still Sanskrit.

The European tradition of counting the hours of the day from

the midnight-hour originated in India after the Mahabharat war, taking the time of Krishna's birth as its base since Krishna was revered throughout the ancient world and Krishna's birth symbolized the end of a dark period of tyranny.

Another explanation is that the Vedic administrative headquarters for Europe used to be in London in the British Isles. London meridian time is 5 1/2 hours behind the Indian time. When the sun rises at 5.30 a.m. India changes the date as per Vedic practice. At that time it is the midnight hou. in London. Therefore, the Vedic administration there cultivated the tradition of reckoning the day from the midnight hour. Forgetting that, in our own times Indian bureaucracy reckons its official date to commence from the midnight hour.

Even the terms a.m. and p.m have a Sanskrit connotation, and not English as is easily assumed. In English parlance the term a.m. means 'ante-meridian' and p.m. means 'post-meridian'. But the question remains who is ante-meridian and post-meridian? That is to say the subject himself is missing. The 'Sun' who is vital to the calculation remains un-mentioned. This is unthinkable and unjustifiable. That lacuna arises because it is not realized that the letters a.m. and p.m. are the initials of the hoary Sanskrit expressions (आरोहणम् मार्तंडस्य) Arohanam Martandasya (i.e. the climbing of the Sun) and (पतनम् मार्तंडस्य) Patanam Martandasya (i.e. the falling of the Sun).

London has been a very ancient Vedic capital. Its ancient Sanskrit name was Nondonium which is Sanskrit for a 'Pleasing Habitation.' In Roman times, however, it was misspelled as Londonium. Later this was abbreviated to 'London'. In European languages the letter 'L' has very often replaced the Sanskrit letter 'n'. That is why the Sanskrit name Svetanana (the fair-faced) is pronounced in Russia, as Svetlana.

Vedic Divisions of Time

The current trend of the academic world is to regard the Vedic era as the most primitive. Contrarily it was an era of almost divine excellence in every respect because billions of years ago divinity

itself provided the first proto-types of humanity. Those humans of that first generation had a calculating range which extended from the infinitesimal trillionth of a second to trillions of years. Such a wide, minute to colossal, computation system also pre-supposes a highly developed base of scientific and technological excellence. Hereunder is that split-second scale of ancient Vedic calculation (mentioned in the 32nd chapter of the Marathi translation of the Yajurveda, by S.K. Devdhar, Prasaad Prakashan, Pune, India):-

1 Paramanu	=	$\frac{1}{379675}$ Second
	=	1 Anu
2 Paramanu	=	1 Tryasarenu
3 Anu	=	1 Truti
3 Tryasarenu	=	1 Vedh
100 Truti	=	1 Lava
3 Vedh	=	1 Nimish
3 Lava	=	1 Kshan
3 Nimish	=	1 Kashta
5 Kshan	=	1 Laghu
15 Kashta	=	1 Ghatika = 24 minutes
15 Laghu	=	1 Muhurta
2 Ghatika	=	1 Prahar
3-3/4 Muhurta	=	1 Day = 24 hours
8 Prahar	=	1 Paksha
15 Days	=	1 Maas (i. e. month)
2 Paksha	=	1 Rutu
2 Maas	=	1 Ayan
3 Rutu	=	1 Varsha i.e. year.
2 Ayan	=	

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AYURVED THE ANCIENT UNIVERSAL MEDICAL SYSTEM

'Veda' in Sanskrit signifies knowledge. Since Sanskrit was humanity's language worldwide for millions of years, the term Veda as connoting 'knowledge', is common to many languages.

Consequently, the Vedas constitute the basic fund of knowledge furnished by divinity to guide human beings in every aspect of life. Since physical fitness is a primary need, Ayurved is the primordial, divine science of medicine which forms an important component of the Vedas as signified by the last syllable in the term Ayurved. The worldwide prevalence of Ayurved is one more proof of Vedic culture having pervaded the whole of the ancient world.

Lord Ampthill, Governor of Madras Presidency under the British administration in India, while inaugurating the King Institute of Preventive Medicine in Madras in February 1905 said "The people of India....can lay claim to have been acquainted with the main principles of curative and preventive medicine at a time when Europe was still immersed in ignorant savagery. I am not sure whether it is generally known that the science of medicine originated in India, but this is the case and the science was first exported from India to Arabia and thence to Europe. Down to the close of the 17th century Europe physicians learnt the science from the works of Arabic doctors, while the Arabic doctors many centuries before,

had obtained their knowledge from the works of great Indian physicians such as Dhanwantari, Charaka and Susruta. It is a strange circumstance in the world's progress that the centre of enlightenment and knowledge should have travelled from East to West, leaving but little permanent trace of its former existence in the East. Now we are beginning to find out that the Hindu Shastras also contain a sanitary code no less correct in principle, and that the great law-giver Manu was one of the greatest sanitary reformers the world has ever seen."[1]

Vedic Surgery is Ancientmost

An Australian cardiac surgeon, Dr. Rowan Nicks said in a lecture delivered in New Delhi on September 29, 1981 that the ancient Hindus excelled all other races of their time in surgery. Thousands of years before Europe learned the technique, the Sushrut Samhita manuscript contained detailed instructions on lithotomy, (operation to cut stone in the bladder). Modern European surgical instruments are modelled on those used by the ancient Hindus. Hindu surgeons were also experts in plastic surgery i.e. repairing limbs disfigured by disease, mishaps or assaults. Dr. Nicks added that all drugs used in medical treatment in Babylon, Assyria, Egypt and Greece were made in India. Mercury, sandalwood, belladona and Indian hemp provided some of the extracts.

All such achievements of the ancient divine Hindu, Vedic culture have been generally blanked out from world histories written mostly by Muslims from the 8th to 18th century and by European Christians during the next two centuries.

It also needs to be realized that the Hindus were not a race. Hinduism is just a synonym of Vedic culture. In ancient times, prior to the propagation of Christianity and Islam, people all over the world, including those in Babylon, Assyria and Egypt were all Hindus. They all learned Ayurved i.e. the Vedic science of healing

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(1) Pp. 1-2, BHARAT (INDIA) As Seen and Known by Foreigners, by G.K. Deshpande, 1960.

at Sanskrit academies spread throughout the world. Naturally the techniques and the drugs they used came from India because the global Vedic educational and administrative system had its roots in India.

Dr. Sir William Hunter obserbed "The surgery of the ancient Indian physicians was bold and skilful. They conducted amputations, arresting the bleeding by pressure, a cup-shaped bandage and boiling oil, practised lithotomy, performed operations in the abdomen and uterus, cured hernia, fistula, piles, set broken bones and dislocations and were dexterious in the extraction of foreign substances from the body. A special branch of surgery was devoted to rhinoplasty, or operation for improving deformed ears and noses and forming new ones, a useful operation which Europeans have now borrowed. The ancient Indian surgeons also mention a cure for neuralgia, analogous to the modern cutting of the 5th nerve above the eyebrow. They were expert in midwifery, not shrinking from the most critical operations."[2]

The prostate gland operation performed by modern Western surgeons follows step by step the exact procedure laid down by the Hindu surgeon, Sushrut thousands of years ago. Even the term prostate gland is the Sanskrit term 'Prasthita granthi' (प्रस्थित ग्रन्थि) signifying a gland located in front (of the urinal bladder).

Anatomical Expertise of Vedic Culture

Ancient Vedic culture possessed expert anatomical knowledge. In fact the very term anatomy (wrongly interpreted in modern medical tuition) is the Sanskrit term 'un-atmy' i.e. 'not concerning the soul (but the body).'

During the 'Festival of India (March-August, 1982) in London the local Science Museum organized a special section displaying scientific achievements, of India. It included two articulated human skeletons commissioned by the Hindu Raja Sarfoji of Tanjore (India). One was done in ivory while the other was in sandal-wood

(2) Pp. 30-31, ibid.

(between 1805 and 1810) because retaining human bone skeletons was considered improper. (Details may be had from the Krishna-Ram Institute of Anatomy, Andhra Medical College, Visakhapatnam (India).

Plastic Surgery in Ancient India

Even as late as the 18th century one comes across instances of the expertise of the Vedic medical science, Ayurved.

A letter to the editor carried by the **Gentleman's Magazine,** London (available in the library of the **Wellcome Institute for History of Medicine,** 183 Euston road, London) gives the details. A Maratha bullock-cart driver, Cowasjee served with the British Army in India in 1792. Being taken prisoner by Tipu Sultan's army the Hindu cart-driver's nose was chopped off as per the barbarous Muslim torturing and maiming tradition. After about a year on return to his native Poona a local Hindu Ayurvedic surgeon furnished him with a new nose. British doctors, Thomas Cruso and James Trindlay were two fascinated witnesses. They testify to such miracle operations being very common in India even in their days.

Such expertise in every branch of healing survives unknown in remote corners of India even among ordinary human folk. But a somnolent Government administration still carrying the hangover of an inferiority-complex generated by 1235 years of alien rule, is making no effort to proclaim by the beat of the drum to have all such wonder-cures and experts to be nationally listed in a grand directory.

Embryo Transplant

Pictures depicting an embryo-transplant from Devananda's womb (who conceived Mahavir, an incarnation of the Jain cult) to the womb of Queen Trisala (who ultimately gave birth to Mahavira) are displayed in the Oriental Gallery of the British Museum, London.

The November-December 1980 issue of the American journal, **Fertility and Sterility,** carries an article by Frank M. Guttman and Herta A. Guttman describing that transplant as a graphic illustration

of the medical expertise of the ancient Ayurvedic system.

The article, taking a cue from current historical concepts ascribes Mahavira's birth to 599 B.C. But that date may be more ancient. Mahavira is known to be an elder contemporary of the Buddha. In my book titled- **Some Blunders of Indian Historical Research**, in a special chapter I have pointed out that Buddha's time has been under-estimated by 1300 years. Since Mahavira was a contemporary (of the Buddha) his time too would recede by 1300 years.

Test-Tube Babies

The Mahabharat epic contains an elaborate description of how the 100 Kauravas were born as test-tube babies. That was prior to 5561 B.C. Such instances indicate that in the remote past too the earth had highly advanced civilizations.

The English word 'apothecary' signifying a chemist is the Sanskrit term (पथ्यकरी) 'pathyakari' which implies a purveyor of health-restoring remedies.

The Sanskrit term couldn't have been in vogue in Europe unless Ayurved, the medical science and Sanskrit language were in vogue in ancient Europe.

In confirmation of the conclusion we may quote Dorothea Chaplin observing that 'In Scottish towns of the present day the pharmacist continues to place over his doorway the sign of the Golden Pestle and Mortar.''[3]

That is a very significant observation in two respects. Firstly, Ayurved the Vedic science of medicine does indeed emphasize the importance of pounding medicines in gold vessels. Secondly, the pestle and mortar in which Ayurvedic medicines are powdered and blended have indeed come to be regarded as ubiquitous Ayurvedic symbols. That same symbol continues to be widely used in India

(3) P. 102, Matter, Myth and Spirit or Keltic and Hindu Links, by Dorothea Chaplin, F.S.A. Scot Rider & Co. Paternoster Row, London.

by Ayurvedic chemists, physicians and pharmaceutical firms. That the same symbol appears on chemist-shops in Britain too is a clear indication of the prevalence of Ayurveda in the whole of ancient Europe, because Ayurved, with its base in India, couldn't have reached and survived in far-away England unless it first suffused Europe.

Testifying to the antiquity and the worldwide spread of Ayurved Dorothea Chaplin observes ''Long before the year 460 B.C. in which Hippocrates, the father of European medicine was born, the Hindus had built an extensive pharmacopoeia and had elaborate treatises on a variety of medical and surgical subjects.....The Hindus' wonderful knowledge of medicine has for some considerable time led them away from surgical methods as working destruction on the nervous system, which their scientific medical system is able to obviate producing a cure even without a preliminary crisis.''[4]

That is a very important observation. Ayurved is a divine system whose treatment is based on laws of nature. It is also inexpensive, least ostentatious, very efficacious and the least painful. It also aims at curing the disease instead of merely treating the symptoms or alleviating pain. Ayurvedic treatment also reaches the patient at his bedside amongst his near and dear ones. Contrarily allopaths always tend to express their helplessness and advise all patients to be removed to a common hospital where he and his relations undergo considerable hardship and expense.

Hippocrates obviously was an Ayurvedic practitioner of his own times. How far is it then justifiable to regard him as the father of modern medicine? If however, the divergent characteristics making allopathy more of a painful, highly expensive, less efficacious, ostentatious, hospital-centred and surgery-oriented system are traced to Hippocrates then that is no compliment to Hippocrates.

Vaidyas in Ancient Britain

That Ayurved and Ayurved alone was practised in ancient Britain

(4) Pp. 168-169, ibid.

and of course all over Europe and the ancient world is apparent from another detail mentioned by Dorothy Chaplin namely that "The Macbeths, Beaton or Betunes were physicians, their names originating from 'Life's son' (Beatha or Beathan. See Scotsman, Origin of Surnames, June 16, 1934). An early Gaelic physician named Mac Bheathadh (Bethune-literally 'Son of Life') with 'dh' silent, apparently originates from Baidya. Siva under the title of Baidyanath is Lord of Physicians."[5]

The above extract indicates that the British too have surnames originating in the Sanskrit term, Vaidya alias Baidya, an ancient professional Ayurvedic term as in India. Due to the vagaries of local pronunciation and neglect of Sanskrit, even in India the term Vaidya and Vaidyanath have degenerated into being spelled as Baid, Baidya, Baidnath etc. No wonder, therefore, that they are spelled as Beth in Europe.

Sindh - Vaidya

In Muslim lands a typical ancient Vaidya from Sindh alias Sindhu province of India is still remembered as Sindbaid. The adventures of 'Sindbad the Sailor' originate in three unknown but renowned peripatetic Hindu Ayurvedic practitioners who, in the good old days of a unitary universal Vedic culture used to go on supervisory, consultative or teaching assignments to different parts of the world.

This should lead historians and etymologists to trace the term Vaidya to other lands and languages also. Researchers may take a cue from Dorothea Chaplin and look for signs, symbols, surnames, practices and other traces of Ayurvedic practice in all regions of the world.

Ayurved and all other ancient Vedic practices survived in those regions more where the inroads of Islam and Christianity were not heavy. For instance, Siberia being a sparsely populated, inhospitable region, there one can still find people preparing and administering

(5) Pp. 169-170, ibid.

Ayurvedic mixtures and enshrining idols for being prayed-to for granting long life to the aged, the suffering and the seriously ill.

A team of researchers from the International Academy of Indian Culture, which had visited Siberia brought back from there an idol of Ayu Devata (the deity of long life) and a palm-leaf manuscript of Ashtang Ayurved i.e. an ancient, comprehensive medical treatise. Those relics are on display at the Academy's premises at 22-Hauz Khas, New Delhi. The team also discovered that standard Ayurvedic powders such as Trifala and Hingashtak are also prepared and used in Siberia. Likewise people there still cherish and revere the sanctity of Ganga water.

Ayurved as Important Evidence

One very important proof of the worldwide spread of Vedic culture is found in the exclusive use of Ayurvedic treatment throughout the world in ancient times. It may be taken as a law of history that if a ruling power has a medical system of its own, the rulers promote and promulgate their own medical system and discourage or suppress the others. This may be illustrated by what the British did in India. At the time when the British began their trading (and later empire-building) activities in India, an excellent, efficient, inexpensive and painless Ayurvedic treatment was available throughout India. But in inverse proportion to the expansion of the British domain in India the Ayurvedic system of medical treatment was progressively eclipsed and brought to the verge of extinction. Thus the ancient spread of Ayurved constitutes an important piece of evidence of the prevalence of Vedic culture in all regions of the world.

Unani is Ayurved

The so-called 'Unani' medical system which the Arabs and other Muslim countries practise is nothing but Ayurved. It acquired that name 'Yunan' from Greece. Under the ancient universal Vedic administration Greece was known as the Yavan region. That is what led to the term Ionia. The Muslims pronounced it as Yunan. Countries which were later converted to Islam received Ayurvedic medical

treatment and instruction from Hindu Vedic medical centres in Greece. The Hindu Ayurvedic regional medical headquarters for Arabia was Greece. Consequently, the Arabs termed that system as coming to them from Yunan i.e. Greece.

Tribal Medicine

Ayurved had also served as tribal medicine among different communities in the world. All the forest tribes, the so-called backward communities of the world retain some aspects of the ancient Ayurvedic system.

Cough

Ayurvedic diagnosis is based on the imbalance of gas, phlegm and bile elements in the body. This is a notch above the allopathic system because while allopathy looks upon every patient as a standard skeleton, fitted with a stereotype pipeline and sewer system, the Ayurvedic diagnosis takes into consideration the imbalance in the three live elements peculiar to every patient. Among those three elements, phlegm, is known as 'Kaf' in the Ayurvedic system. It may be noted that the word 'cough' used in English is in fact a relic of the Aurvedic system that was in vogue during the Vedic past in the British isles. Though the English 'cough' has a slightly different connotation than the Ayurvedic 'Kaf' (i.e. phlegm) yet because cough originates in phlegm, it is obvious that even in ancient England the word 'Kaf' did originally imply phlegm but became restricted in meaning later as cough. We may, therefore, very appropriately maintain that the 'cough' that still sores the throat of the English language is basically the Ayurvedic 'Kaf' alias phlegm.

Heart

Let us now consider the word 'heart'. The original Sanskrit root is 'hrt'. The English word has only two extra vowels. What is said to be 'hearty' (welcome) in English is almost the Sanskrit word 'hardic'.

The words 'cardiac' and 'cardiogram' also concern the heart. They are in fact Sanskrit words 'hardiac' and 'hardiogram', because

those are corresponding Sanskrit derivatives (from the word 'hridaya' meaning 'heart'). Yet since 'Sindhu' is spelled as Hindu and vice versa 'hardiac' and 'hardiogram' came to be spelled as cardiac and cardiogram i. e. sardiac and sardiogram.

Physician

In Aurvedic terminology a physician is known as Bhishag (Shastri). It is that word 'Bhishag' which came to be pronounced in European parlance as 'physhag' and spelled as physician.

Doctor

The term 'doctor' is the Sanskrit word (दु:खतार) Dukhtaar i.e. one who alleviates or remedies the (physical) pain of the patient. 'Dukh' is physical discomfort or pain while 'taar' signifies 'protecting', 'saving' or 'pulling' away from.

Cerebrum

The term 'cerebrum' is the Sanskrit term Shira-Brahma i.e. 'the world of the brain.'

Matrix

The term 'matrix' is the Sanskrit term 'matariksha' (like 'antariksha' meaning 'space') i.e. void alias womb in the mother's body.

The Cord

'Umba' in Sanskrit signifies the mother, while ' alica' means the womb (which provides the mother's nourishment to the foetus). Consequently, the allopathic term 'umbilical' is an abbreviated form of 'umba- alical'.

Meningitis

This is the Sanskrit compound (मनन्-ज-शोथस्) manan-ja-shothas which signifies a swelling affecting the brain. There 'manan' is the mind, 'ja' signifies 'born' or 'created' and 'shoth' is swelling.

Fever

The Ayurvedic term for 'fever' may be spelled as 'jawer' alias 'jever'. Because Ayurved is a much more ancient system than allopathy the English word 'fever' is a mere malpronunciation of the Ayurvedic term 'jever' alias 'jwer'.

Nose

Anything concerning the nose is known in English as 'nasal' because the Sanskrit word for nose in 'naas.' The term cynosis is Sanskrit seet-naas (शीत-नास) i.e. cold nose. Entrails is the Sanskrit word 'antral' (आंत्रल).

Herpes is the Sanskrit word Serpes since 'h' and 's' are interchangeable. Serpes means serpent. It is so named because it involves a serpentine eruption on the skin and a feeling of intense burning as from a poisonous bite.

Gland is the Sanskrit term 'Granthi'. In such words 'r' and 'l' may be seen to be interchangeable.

The term 'prostate gland' is the Sanskrit term (प्रस्थित ग्रन्थिः) prasthita granthi.' The Sanskrit term 'prasthita' implies a gland placed in front (of the urinary bladder).

The English words 'drip', 'drop', 'drops' and 'dropsy' are derived from the Sanskrit word (द्रप्स) 'drups' meaning 'drip'.

The term hydrocephalus implying the formation of water in and around the brain is the Sanskrit term 'ardrakapaalas' (आर्द्र कपालम्) where 'ardra' means 'damp', 'wet' or 'full of liquid, and 'kapaal' signifies the skull.

The term 'hiccups' is the Sanskrit word 'hicca' alias (हिक्का) 'hikka'.

Muscle is the Sanskrit word (मांसल) 'mausal' meaning fleshy.

The term 'osteomalacia' is the Sanskrit compound (अस्थिमलाशय) 'asthi-malashay' signifying a contamination of the bones. It may be noted in this context that words like 'malign' and 'malignant'

all use the Sanskrit term 'maleen' meaning 'spoiled' or 'contaminated' and 'anta' means 'ending in.'

Entrails is the Sanskrit word 'aantral'.

The term 'amoebiosis' is made up of the Ayurvedic terms (आम-जीव) 'aam' and 'jiva'.

Dyspepsia is the term Dush-pachanashay (दुश्-पचनाशय) implying dull or bad digestion.

Pancreas if written as Pachancreas can be detected to be Sanskrit.

Anaesthesia is the Sanskrit term (अनास्थशायी) Anastha-shayee i.e. one lying in an improper (inert and inactive) state.

The term 'fertility' is the Sanskrit word 'falati-iti (फलति इति) i.e. 'one which yields a crop or fruit'.

The term surgeon is the Sanskrit word 'salya-jan' i.e. one who wields a sharp instrument.

The term Homoeopathy is the Sanskrit term Sama-eo-pathy (सम-इव-पथि) implying a path (i.e. system) of treatment running parallel or similar to the symptoms.

Correspondingly the term allopathy is the Sanskrit term (अलगपथि) 'alag-pathy' signifying a path (of treatment) different (from homoeopathy). In the term allopathy an extra 'l' has been added while the letter 'g' has dropped off.

All ailments ending in the syllable 'itis' in allopathic terminology, such as appendicitis imply 'swelling'. That is because that term 'itis' is a corruption of the Sanskrit, Ayurvedic term 'shothas' (शोथस्) signifying 'swelling.'

Thus a close study of allopathic terminology whether of ailments, physical organs, symptoms, remedies, or instruments will be found to be based on Ayurved because during the universal unitary Vedic administration it was only Ayurved which was the sole Vedic medical system which was used throughout the world. With the shattering of the world medical system after the Mahabharat war, fragments

of Ayurved surviving in different parts of the world assumed the form of tribal remedies or as rival systems such as homoeopathy and allopathy. This has a parallel in theology and religion too inasmuch as after the break-up of the world Vedic theogony, cults of different gods and goddesses such as Mithraism, Jainism, Judaism, Buddhism and Saivism, not hostile or dissimilar to Vedic culture at first cropped up, but later even hostile and militant faiths such as Christianity and Islam made their appearance.

From the multi-volume **Story of Civilization** written by the American, Will Durant one gathers (Vol. II, Pages 529-530) that "Anatomy and physiology like some aspects of chemistry were by-products of Hindu medicine ......lymphatics, nerve plexus, fascia, adipose and vascular tissues, mucous and synovial membranes, and many more muscles than any modern cadaver is able to show......The doctors of pre-Christian India understood remarkably well the processes of digestion, the different functions of the gastric juices, the conversion of chyme into chyle, and of this into blood. Anticipating Weismann by 2,400 years, Atreya (circa 500 B.C.) held that the parental seed is independent of the parent's body, and contains in itself in miniature the whole parent organism ...... Examination for virility was recommended as a pre-requisite for marriage in men; and the code of Manu warned against marrying mates affected with tuberculosis, epilepsy, leprosy, chronic dyspepsia, piles or loqacity. Birth-control in the latest theological fashion was suggested by the Hindu medical school of 500 B.C. in the theory that during 12 days of the menstrual cycle impregnation is impossible. It was noted that the sex of the foetus remains for a time undetermined, and it was claimed that in some cases the sex of the embryo could be influenced by food or drugs.

"Susrut, professor of medicine in the University of Banares wrote down in Sanskrit a system of the diagnosis and therapy whose elements had descended to him from his teacher Dhanwantari.His book dealt at length with surgery, obstetrics, diet, bathing, drugs, infant-feeding, hygiene and medical education.

"Charak composed a samhita (or encyclopaedia) of medicine, which is still used in India, and gave to his followers almost a Hippocratic conception of their calling 'Not for self, not for the fulfilment of any earthly desire of gain, but solely for the good of suffering humanity should you treat your patients and so excel all'.

"Only less illustrious than these are Wagbhat who prepared a medical compendium in verse and prose and Bhavamishra whose voluminous work on anatomy, physiology and medicine mentioned... the circulation of the blood and prescribed mercury for the novel disease syphilis, which had... been brought in by the Portuguese as part of Europe's heritage to India....

"Susrut described many surgical operations- cataract, hernia, lithotomy, caesarian etc... and 121 surgical instruments including lancers, sounds, forceps, catheters and rectal and vaginal speculums. He advocated the dissection of dead bodies as indispensable in the training of surgeons. He was the first to graft upon a torn ear, portions of skin taken from another part of the body and from his and his Hindu successors' - rhinoplasty - the surgical reconstruction of the nose-descended into modern medicine. 'The ancient Hindus', says Garrison, 'performed almost every major operation except ligation of the arteries. Limbs were amputated, abdominal sections were performed, fractures were set, hemorrhoids and fistulas were removed.'

"Susrut laid down elaborate rules for preparing an operation and his suggestion that the wound be sterilized by fumigation is one of the earliest known efforts at antiseptic surgery.

"Susrut and Charak mention the use of medicinal liquors to produce insensibility to pain. In 927 A.D. two surgeons trepanned the skull of a Hindu king, and made him insensitive to the operation by administering a drug called Sammohini.

"For the detection of 1120 diseases that he enumerates Susrut recommended diagnosis by inspection, palpation and ausculation. Taking of the pulse was described in a treatise dating 1300 A.D. Urinalysis was a favourite method of diagnosis.

"In the time of Yuan Chwang, Hindu medical treatment began with a seven-day fast. In this interval the patient often recovered. If the illness continued, drugs were often employed. Even then drugs were used very sparingly, reliance was placed largely upon diet, baths, enemas, inhalations, urethral and vaginal injections and blood-letting by leeches or cups.

"Hindu physicians were especially skilled in concocting antidotes or poisons. They still excel European physicians in curing snake-bites.

"Vaccination, unknown to Europe before the 18th century was known in India as early as 550 A.D., if we may judge from a text attributed to Dhanwantari, one of the earliest Hindu physicians, 'take the fluid of the pock on the udder of the cow.....upon the point of a lancet, and lance with it the arms between the shoulders and elbows until the blood appears, then mixing the fluid with the blood, the fever of the small-pox will be produced.'

"Modern Europeans believe that the caste separateness was prescribed because of the Brahman belief in invisible agents transmitting disease. Many of the laws of sanitation enjoined by Susrut and Manu seem to take for granted what we moderns.....call the germ theory of disease.

"Hypnotism as therapy seems to have originated among the Hindus who often took their sick to the temples to be cured by hypnotic suggestion or 'temple sleep' as in Egypt or Greece. The Englishmen who introduced hypnotherapy into England—Braid, Esdaile and Elliotson – undoubtedly got their ideas of some of their experience from contact with India.

"In the time of Alexander, says Garrison, 'Hindu physicians and surgeons enjoyed a well-deserved reputation for superior knowledge and skill and even Aristotle is believed by some students to have been indebted to them.'

"Caliph Harun-al-Rashid accepted the pre-eminence of Indian medicine and scholarship and imported Hindu physicians to organize

hospitals and medical schools in Baghdad....Lord Ampthill concludes that mediaeval and modern Europe owes its system of medicine directly to Arabs and through them to India.

"In this oldest system of Hindu medicine illness is attributed to disorders in one of the four humors—air, water, phlegm and blood and treatment is recommended with herbs and charms.....with a success that is sometimes the envy of Western physicians. The Rigved names over a thousand such herbs and advocates water as the best cure for most diseases. Even in Vedic times physicians and surgeons were being differentiated from magic doctors, and were living in houses surrounded by gardens in which they cultivated medicinal plants....."

The information quoted above from William Durant's book may give the reader a general idea of perfection that Ayurvedic medicine had reached in every field such as diagnosis, preparation and administration of medicines, surgery, vaccination, injection etc.

His dates for various Hindu medical experts of ancient times may not be taken as final. Europeans have arrived at those dates on the basis of a very primitive idea of the antiquity of the universe. All their surmises about ancient dates have been cut to accord with the notion that the world began in 4004 B.C. and the Rigved was composed in 1200 B.C. Since according to the Vedic almanac almost 2000 million years have elapsed from the start of the present phase of humanity, the actual dates of the medicial experts mentioned by Durant must be much more ancient.

Though the Dhanwantari that he mentions may very well be a latter-day namesake yet the first progenitor of the Vedic medical science was the original sage Dhanwantari who taught Ayurved, the divine science of healing to the first few generations of human beings.

The reference to Greece, Egypt, Baghdad and China above should leave one in no doubt that it was Ayurved and Ayurved alone which was practised throughout the world in ancient times. Its use worldwide proves the existence of a universal Vedic administration

operated and controlled from India.

The reference to botanical gardens etc. in the Vedas proves that the Vedas hold the key to supreme knowledge in every sphere, and also that all this knowledge was not developed by cave-men. Knowledge is invariably imparted by a superior to an inferior. Therefore, comprehensive knowledge of every sphere was first bestowed by divinity on humanity at the time of the creation. This is borne out by two other factors namely that no Vedic science or art ever appears to be in the formative or primitive stage. From music to medicine every branch of Hindu knowledge always appears to be in a state of perfection, and secondly every master refers to an anterior super-master at whose feet he learned his lessons.

Hippocrates believed to be the father of modern medicine was actually an Ayurvedic practitioner who specialized in making soups. Soup is a Sanskrit term. Supa-Karta means a maker of Soups. Since S is replaced by H his profession was pronounced as Houp-Karta, later garbled as Hippocrates.

♦♦

VEDIC ARCHITECTURE

According to the Vedic theory of creation, all knowledge in every branch of science and art including architecture, was imparted to humanity by divinity at the start of the creation. Consequently it is the Vedic system of architecture which is the basis of the building-art all over the world.

This is not as bizarre as it may seem at first sight because all insects and animals from ants, bees and snails to crows and pigeons are taught by nature (i.e. by divinity) to build their own peculiar habitations. Therefore Vedic architecture too is of divine origin.

Apart from the rationality of that argument Vedic literature of every branch does in fact assert and record the divine origin of all knowledge. Let us, therefore, examine the origin of architecture as recorded by Vedic tradition.

According to Vedic tradition all knowledge is classified as Para and Apara Vidya. Para Vidya was considered the ultimate, true, real, metaphysical, spiritual knowledge which tells man that mundane affairs being all transitory, illusory and destructible one's ultimate concern should be to concentrate on the divine origin.

Apara Vidya comprises of all branches of mundane knowledge.

References to the building-art are found in the Rigveda, Yajurveda and Atharvaved as also in the Matsya Puran and Agni Puran. An

Upa-Veda i.e. a branch of the Vedas concerns itself with architecture and is known as Shilp-Upaveda. Sanskrit texts of the science of town-planning are known as Shilp Shastras. Other ancient Sanskrit texts known as Niti-Shastras, which lay down rules to be observed by Vedic communities, also deal with the construction of buildings and cities.

Vedic Engineering

A compendium of Vedic engineering is known as Bhrugu Shilp Samhita. It has three broad divisions known as Khand, and ten sub-divisions termed as Upa-Shastras. Those 10 were further divided into 32 branches known as Vidyas i.e. branches of study leading to 64 Kalas i.e. arts or technologies.

According to Vedic tradition 'Brahma' - the creator furnished humanity with all the basic knowledge necessary to conduct its life in this world. That collective knowledge constituted the Vedas. What are currently known as the four Vedas could be either the surviving nucleus or a codified condensation of the entire original, primordial divine, stock of knowledge.

Sage Manasar (author of the Sanskrit text known as Manasar Silpashastra) referring to the origin of the science of architecture and town-planning states that Brahma trained four architects named Vishwakarma, Maya, Tvastar and Manu. Each had one son named respectively as Sthapati, Sutragrahi, Vardhaki and Takshak

The numerous treatises on architecture in Sanskrit dealing with the construction of forts, palaces, towers, mansions, bridges, temples, gateways, schools, hermitages etc. are titled as Mayamata, Kashyap Saraswatyam, Yuktikalpataru, Samarangana Sutradhar, Akashabhairava Kalpa, Narada Silpa Samhita, Vishwakarma Vidyaprakash, Brihat Samhita, Manushyalaya Chandrika, Silparatna etc.[1]

Languishing Sanskrit Texts.

It is a pity that these expert, ancient building and civil-engineering

(1) P.63 Silpa Sansar Weekly, Vol.1, No.4, Pune, January 1965.

texts are languishing for want of patronage not only in the rest of the world but even in India which is their home-land. They contain secrets of unparalleled engineering skills. For instance, the technique of erecting ornamental stone pandals and pavilions in temples with carved stone pillars touching the ceiling but not the floor; of towers in pairs which gently rock if even one of them is vigorously hugged; stone pillars which produce regulated musical notes and domes and galleries which produce a series of echoes.

The Geometrical Patterns

The geometrical patterns such as squares or rectangles which form the basis of the ground plans of all ancient buildings throughout the world (including even those which are since being used as mosques; tombs and churches) are of Vedic origin.

The typical Vedic edifice is a rectangular (or octagonal) structure with its four sides facing the four quarters divided like a graph paper into four equal parts by a horizontal central line cut across by a vertical perpendicular line.

All well-known, historic buildings throughout the world such as St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey in London, the Pyramids in Egypt, the Notre Dame in Paris, buildings in Italy and Greece, the so-called mosques and tombs including the Kaba in what are now Muslim countries and the Taj Mahal and the Red Fort and other historic buildings in India are built on the same graph-paper pattern.

Correspondingly Vedic architecture also dealt with a circular Vastu-purush mandal i.e. building plan.

The Building Texts

The Vedic science of architecture and town-planning is expounded in detail in Sanskrit texts known as Agamas.

These texts are of hoary origin, much ancient than Islam and Christianity. Also because all massive and historic churches, mosques and mausoleums throughout the world are captured temples, scholars

of architecture would do well to study those structures and their layout on the basis of the ancient Sanskrit Agama texts.

Those texts visualize a building as a human figure squatting in deep meditation contemplating on divinity.

Since consciousness resides deep within the living human form in a commanding position above the nose, between the eyebrows, on the forehead, the Sanctum too is conceived as the head of the temple.

The temple in its turn forms the soul and the centre of the town or locality.

The King's palace forms the other focal point since the ruler is the temporal head representing divinity on earth. Therefore many-a-time the road joining the royal palace and the temple formed the central axis of the township e.g. the Chandani Chowk high street in Delhi connecting the Red Fort with the so-called Fatehpuri Mosque (which is a captured temple).

It is from this point of view that the plans of all ancient townships and mansions throughout the world need to be studied.

For instance, several edifices in West Asian countries now under Islamic occupation are known to have drum-houses alias music-houses. This is graphic evidence of their Vedic-origin. Yet Muslim gossip ascribes those townships and edifices to some Sultan. World historians, architects and archaeologists have hitherto placed implicit faith in that gossip. The very fact that those music-houses play no music from the time of Muslim capture, bears mute testimony to the Vedic origin of those edifices. Because it is only in Vedic culture that all routine day and night, begins with sacred, divine music.

The Building Planned as a Human Figure

When conceived as a human figure the plinth represents the haunches of the squatting man, the first storey is the stomach, the second storey is the chest; then there is the neck-like base

of the dome. The dome itself is the 'head'. On top of the dome is an inverted lotus design which represents the circular patch of hair retained on an otherwise shaved off head by men in Vedic practice. The pinnacle represents the tuft of hair alias Sikha retained by all men.

Selection of Site and Stones

Agama texts deal with every detail of town-planning and architecture beginning with the selection of the site.

Initially the fertillity of the soil is ascertained by sowing seeds. The crop is fed to cows and the place is worshipped to invoke divine grace.

The architect and the priest together then break the ground.

Stones to be used in the structure are tested with an iron rod. Those that yield a good musical sound and those which emit sparks when hit with a chisel are classified as of the 'male' variety. The stones which don't produce a spark but emit a good sound are classed as female. Other stones which fail in both those tests were classified as 'impotent'

The standard of measurement was then determined. This could be the height of the patron himself or of his preceptor or any such highly respected person or any other criterion. That was known as Tala. That was sub-divided into proportional sub-divisions known as Angula and Yava, though Angula and Yava were otherwise specific standards of measurement in their own right.

The British Isles were known as Angula country obviously because (from the above analogy) their length from the southernmost point to the northernmost was taken to be a measure to chart regions with on the European continent and oceans such as the Atlantic and Mediterranean.

A divine idol, say three feet high was divided into 10 units known as dasa-tala. Terms like deca-gram or dece-metre may, therefore, be seen to be of Vedic origin.

The temple provided the hub around which the social, cultural, moral, spiritual, legal, educational and administrative life of the community revolved all over the ancient world. This point needs to be specially noted in the study of the ancient times.

"Tala" also signifies proportion in Vedic parlance. It is that system which guided sculptors and architects throughout the world in building magnificent structures, chiselling mountain-caves and fashioning handsome idols.

Four Representations of Divinity

In Vedic tradition divinity is represented in either of four ways namely as **Kumbha** (the pitcher containing sacred water), the **Mandala** i.e. the esoteric diagram representing the divine energy-circuit, the Kunda alias pit or receptacle for the sacred fire, and the **Bimba** i.e. the divine idol. It may be noticed that ancient structures all over the world (most of them since converted as mosques, mausoleums and churches) contained all those four manifestations. The fire-pits may be noticed crudely filled up. Esoteric, divine Vedic energy-circuits may be seen inlaid in edifices such as those misrepresented as mausoleums in Delhi and Agra and throughout the regions currently dominated by Islam.

The basic building-block was of nine horizontal and nine vertical divisions like a graph-paper. The 81 squares or rectangles (or segments in a circular plan) resulting therefrom were given specific names. This basic format could be expanded or contracted as required.

The Dome Represents the Head

The dome was known as Amalaka and constituted a natural ceiling on octagonal or square structures. The dome also symbolized the canopy sheltering both divinity and royalty.

The dome is not at all a Muslim pattern. The Kaba temple in Mecca used to be a domed structure in pre-Muslim times. Eversince it passed into Muslim hands its ornamental dome and decorative divine figures were hacked to be replaced by its present flat ceiling.

Towers Not Muezzin's Minarets

The symmetrical towers to the right and left of the main entrance or at the four corners are also a Hindu detail. These used to serve as lamp-posts during the night and as watch-towers during the day. Symmetry is the special trait of Hinduism while it is incongruous with Islamic tradition. Since all ancient buildings are symmetrical they are of Vedic origin even in West Asian regions currently dominated by Islam.

The Muezzin's Death-Trap

These towers usually enclosing narrow, dark, several hundred spiralling stairs, are inadvertently explained away as the Muezzin's minarets. That is obviously an after-thought and an untenable explanation.

No Muezzin will accept a job which involves going up and down a dark, narrow, winding staircase of several hundred steps all his life for sounding a call to prayers five times a day. He will soon be a physical wreck through exertion and exhaustion. Similarly, every Muezzin is bound to trip and roll down some day under such circumstances and either get killed or maimed.

Moreover, when there are two or four minarets the Muezzin will be in two or four minds in determining from which tower to shout his call for prayer everyday. And since the grounds of these ancient buildings are very extensive the towers are wide apart. Calls to prayer given from different towers so widely separated from one another will reach different audiences. From all this it should be realized that whenever and wherever there are two or more towers and wherever they are symmetrically placed they are non-Muslim. This detail would also indicate that all so-called mosques around the world are captured temples falsely ascribed to Muslim origin.

So-called Mosques Sans Minarets

Many-a-time historic structures advertised as Muslim mosques have no tower alias minaret. For instance, the so-called mosque

near the Taj-Mahal in Agra and the so-called Jama Masjid in Fatehpur Sikri. They have no Muezzin's minarets though they are merrily and unquestioningly accepted as 'mosques' built by Muslims. That is a measure of unverified myths parading as history and lack of necessary cross-questioning which is so essential in historical research.

While on the one-hand so-called mosques have no minarets structures which are not mosques but are mausoleums have towers alias minarets. For instance, the Taj Majal in Agra and the Gol Gumbaz alias the Whispering Gallery in Bijapur have towers at their four corners. These towers prove that the so-called mausoleums are captured temples.

Astronomical Orientation

The chapter on churches, in the Encyclopaedia Britannica notes that most of the ancient churches in Europe are astronomically oriented.

This is a very vital detail which seems to have escaped the attention of scholars. Christian and Islamic theology has no place for astronomy while in the Vedic tradition, every day is invested with astronomical significance. In fact every moment of a Hindu's life has its astronomical aspect. That is why the almanac is a necessity in every orthdox Hindu household. All Vedic rituals and ceremonies are governed by astronomical considerations. This should convince the reader (among other points of evidence such as their rectangular Vedic ground-plans) that all ancient churches throughout the world are earlier Vedic temples.

It will also turn out on investigation that the so-called mosques and mausoleums in Muslim countries are also astronomically oriented. Mediaeval Muslim practice was to make do with captured buildings. Like individuals living on theft, communities given to plunder are not the ones who build.

The Blundering Concept of Saracenic Architecture

The concept of Saracenic architecture or Indo-Saracenic

architecture fancied by scholars is based on a wrong presumption. They assumed that historic buildings in countries such as Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iraq, Turkey and India were built by Muslims. In all cases those buildings are captured pre-Islamic edifices. Islam did not sprout any architecture of its own, nor did it ever adopt any Hindu features.

Even in the 20th century when mediaeval orthodoxy is believed to have lost its edge, a Muslim retains his uncompromising, unaccommodative stance. He will capture and misuse Hindu or Christian buildings as mosques and mausoleums but if asked to build anything himself, a Muslim will see to it that his new structure is not 'tainted' or 'tinted' with any non-Muslim trait. That fanatic craze for eschewing other forms makes Islamic structures adopt strange, bizarre, un-symmetrical, askew shapes. Muslims had no need to raise any buildings until the 19th century when they could massacre people and misappropriate their buildings.

Historic buildings which betray Vedic traits are captured Hindu property ignorantly credited to Islam. To somehow explain away the Hindu traits of buildings supposed to have been raised by Muslims scholars assumed that Hindu workmen employed by Muslim patrons, may have been allowed a free hand or that Muslims must have raised their buildings with the debris of felled temples. Those are blundersome assertions. When Muslim chroniclers say that they demolished temples to raise mosques what they mean is that they ravaged and desecrated temples to misuse them as mosques. Muslim chauvinists themselves never credit their (?) buildings to any non-Muslim architect or workmen. They invariably quote some fictitious Muslim as the architect of the buildings they claim to have themselves raised. Even if Hindu workers were employed, will not the construction be closely monitored by Muslim supervisors? And if the material supplied is for a Muslim mosque or mausoleum how can a Hindu temple be built from it ? The argument that mosques may have been raised with temple-debris is also fallacious on at least three counts. One is that Muslim invaders demolished temples because they hated its Hindu decore. How then

would they use the same detested material ? Secondly, how can debris be used in raising a new edifice ? Thirdly, if the debris itself is to be re-used to raise the same edifice, what is the point in demolishing it ? Under such circumstances the presumption that the Hindu traits in historic buildings arise from Hindu workmen employed by muslim invaders is unwarranted.

Among Western authors of note E.B. Havell (author of the book titled - Indian Architecture, its Psychology, Structure and History, from the first Muhammadan invasion to the Present Day) is the only one who rightly concludes that all historic architecture is absolutely Hindu in style, concept and execution.

Western Authors' Misconceptions

Criticising other Western authors Havell observes, ''All these misconceptions have their root in one fixed idea. The belief that true aesthetic feeling has always been wanting in the Hindu mind; that everything really great in Indian art has been suggested or introduced by foreigners.....This persisent habit of looking outside of India for the origins of Indian art must necessarily lead to false conclusions.''[2]

Contrary to the belief of Western scholars, Muslims were so devoid of building acumen that invaders like Muhammed Ghaznavi and Tamerlain are on record to say that even to repair the Hindu buildings they had captured in West Asia they used to spare Hindu masons and architects from the general massacre and march them at sword-point to their own lands.

The translated chronicles use the word 'build' but in Muslim chronicles the word 'build' almost always means 'repair' occupy and misuse.

Far from Muslim invaders working out any fusion, they continued to eye Hindu Vedic architecture with the greatest hatred and enmity. About this Mario Bussagli remarks ''In fact Islamic art is antithetical

(2) Pp. 1 and 2, Havell's book mentioned above.

to Indian art not only in terms of space and time but also in so far as the conceptions of the religious buildings and the value of anthropomorphic figures go, for the Muslims believe that the human figure must never be represented.''[3]

Primordial Vedic Architecture

Since all human architecture originates in Vedic culture, and, as discussed in this volume, Vedic culture has been the primordial heritage of people all over the world, it should be clear that Greek, Roman and all other architecture is of Vedic origin. And a number of very discerning authors have indeed suspected that link. This volume explains the rationale of it all and provides the necessary historical evidence.

Robert Burn observes ''The Romans were the greatest builders that the world has ever seen, but they never succeeded in developing any system of decorative architecture. They were an arch-building but not an architectural nation. They failed to produce anything more than gigantic or grotesque imitation of Greek art.''[4]

We have noted in our study of the Romans that they were heirs to Vedic culture. Their temples were dedicated to Vedic deities. Even today statues of Lord Shiv stand at several public squares in Italy. It is, therefore, obvious that the temples dedicated to Vedic deities should be of the Vedic style. Their deities and architecture were identical with those of the Greeks, as observed above. Greek deities and architecture were the same as those of the Hindus in India as noted by us elsewhere in this volume. If Roman architecture was less ornate than Vedic architecture in India, that only means that the Romans were less industrious and less aesthetic. They adopted Vedic architecture only to the extent of tall pillars and arches and big halls.

''At Rome (is) the vault of the old well-house of the capitol, called the Tullianum....(its stones) clamped together with iron.''[5]

(3) P. 273, Five Thousand Years of Art of India, by Mario Bussagli.
(4) Introduction page XXIX, Rome and the Canpagna, by Robert Burn, Deighton Bell & Co., London, 1871.
(5) P. XXIII of the Introduction to Rome and the Campagna, by R. Burn.

Fastening stones with iron and multi-storeyed well-houses are very common features of all Vedic architecture seen in historic India. The well-houses in India are currently referred to as Baoli Mahals. Tullianum is a Sanskrit term.

"The gates of Roman Quadrata on the Palatine were not bare openings in the line of wall, but consisted of a square chamber with two doors, one opening inwards and the other outwards."[6]

Such gates are a general rule followed in all historic architecture in India.

"Whether the early inhabitants of central Italy obtained their knowledge of this most important principle (viz. of the arch) in building by tradition from Eastern ancestors, or whether they discovered it independently for themselves cannot be determined."[7]

Such doubts which have kept scholars undecided so far should get cleared by the evidence furnished in this volume that the arch is an important feature of Vedic architecture. Consequently the use of the arch all over is an important indicator of the universal prevalence of Vedic knowledge and Vedic administration all over the ancient world.

Vedic Traditions of the White House

A mystic streak of uniformity that runs through human affairs finds expression in the aphorism.....history repeats itself.

A graphic illustration of it is the DHAVALA GRUHA (literally -WHITE HOUSE) enjoined for the head-of-state by ancient Hindu Vedic tradition, finding its counterpart several millenia and thousands of kilometers away from India in the United States.

What is more even the American Embassy building and the neighbouring Roosevelt House in New Delhi unwittingly follow the very same tradition.

(6) P. XXIV, ibid.

(7) P. XXV ibid.

In that age-old tradition the King's alias the Chief Executive's palace was designated as the DHAVALA GRUHA which is the Sanskrit term signifying a WHITE HOUSE. Incidentally even the Whitehall in London is a link in the same Vedic heritage. The term White Paper too connotes a paper issued by the White House. Its Sanskrit equivalent is Dhaval Patrika. A description of what that White House was like is readily available in two famous Sanskrit classics - **Harsha Charita** and **Kadambari** written by the Sanskrit pundit, Banabhatta, 1300 years ago during the reign of Harshavardhan, a king of hallowed memory, whose account has also been left for posterity by the Chinese traveller, Huentsang.

The traditional Vedic features enjoined for the Hindu Chief Executive's Dhaval Gruha have been reflected in every detail in the White House in Washington D.C. and the U.S. Embassy building in New Delhi.

First come wide open lawns and garden with pavilions, designated as Gruha-Udyan i.e. mansion garden.

The entrance to the Dhaval Gruha known as Gruhavagrahani was the place where guards used to be posted.

The mansion had two or more stories with two symmetrical staircases near the entrance.

The Dhaval Gruha was a square or rectangular structure known as Sanjavana around a central water pool and flanking covered corridors. The pool had fountains, and water-channels coursed their way through the main halls.

Living and sleeping accommodation was provided for on the upper floors which also had a pavilion open on all four sides but having a roof supported by pillars. That pavilion was known as Chandrashala i.e. the Moon Lounge - meant for cool reflection on affairs of state under the benign influence of a pleasant moon on clear nights. The Chandrashala used to be usually at the rear terrace.

The royal living quarters were known as Vasagruha. The Pragrivak alias Mukhyashala meant for family gatherings, used to

be above the main entrance on the upper floor.

The right wing of the upper floor, known as the Soudh, was the suite of the queen alias First Lady.

An Indological scholar and archaeologist, the late Vasudev Sharan Agrawal has in his book titled : **Harsh Charita - Ek Sanskritik Adhyayan** observed that the Red Forts in Delhi and Agra also have such Dhaval Gruhas amongst other ancient royal quarters.

The water - channel running through the various apartments was known as Gruha-Deerghika.

The other apartments in the Dhaval Gruha used to be Vyayamabhoomi i.e. gymnasuim and Snangruha alias Dharagruha meaning the royal bath with running hot and cold water. Little cascades and fountains inside the bath were known as Yantradhara i.e. contrived founts and streams. Some more apartments included Devagruha meaning the royal chapel and altar for royal prayers and religious ceremonies, Toyakarmanta - a water pavilion; Mahanasa - the royal kitchen; Sangeeta Bhawan for ballet dances and music programmes; Ayudh-shala (armoury); Adhikaranmandapa (the Chief Executive's Secretariat) and the Ahar-Mandap i.e. the banqueting hall.

The White House alias Dhaval Gruha thus symbolizes a strong ancient cultural bond of hallowed Vedic tradition between India and the United States of America and other countries throughout the world. Even the Yugoslav State guest house in Belgrade is known as the White Palace. Russia too has a White House.

The Dhaval Gruha was intended to impress upon the ruler administrator the need to provide a neat, pure, simple, plain, sacred, clean and unostentatious administration free from any tinge of falsehood, cunning and deception. The Tejo Mahalaya alias Taj Mahal in Agra and the so-called Bibi-Ka-Makabara in Aurangabad though mistaken for Muslim mausoleums are ancient Vedic temple-palaces.

Vedic Symbolism

A Vedic (Hindu) temple is decorated from top to bottom with plant, animal and human life. The same trait unwittingly continues to be retained in so-called Christian cathedrals because they were all earlier Chrisnian (i.e. of Krishna) and other Vedic temples.

The Lotus

The lotus symbol often proliferates. It appears as the holy seat of deities, as a tuft at the apex of arches and as a cap on the top of domes. That is to serve as a perpetual reminder to humanity that it should lead a life like the lotus which though growing through mud and slush, lifts its body well above it, is clean, its leaves and petals don't allow the (mundane) water to stick, and sheds a mild, sweet fragrance.

Humans and Animals

Human and animal figures are featured on temples to remind humanity that earthly existence includes all kinds of life, gentle as well as demoniac represented by saints, devils, tigers, lizards, ascetics, nuns, musicians, snakes etc. and that man has to coexist with them all as part of the divine creation.

Erotic Scenes

Numerous temples in India are richly decorated with what less-devout people and atheists describe as erotic scenes such as copulating human couples and women caressing male testicles. These are to impress on every visitor that sex-relations are a mechanism of the divine scheme of procreation which need to be sublimated and not trifled with as profane, promiscuous, profligacy. That is why weddings everywhere were meant to be Ved-dings i.e. sex relations sanctified by Vedic chants only for the limited purpose of procreation and not for filthy, carnal revelry.

Gaja Kesari

In the temples of the Orissa region and at Devagiri fort, one may see at the entrance the Gaja-Kesari (गज-केसरी) symbolism. Gaja

is the Sanskrit word for the elephant. Kesari is the lion. It is a subuded, crouching elephant surmounted by a snarling lion. This is to impress on every person that mundane attractions and distractions though mighty and of elephantine proportions and strength ought to be subdued and conquered with leonine courage by a man's determined, divine soul-force.

This same 'Gaja-Kesari' epithet is reserved in Vedic astrology for the Moon-Jupiter conjuction in a birth-chart. Such a union does indeed bespeak of a sublime soul in astrological interpretation too.

♦♦

THE UNIVERSAL VEDIC MARRIAGE SYSTEM

Eversince the British consolidated their rule over India early in the 19th century, European concepts began influencing the Indian mind. One such was the European wedding where a couple can be pronounced "man and wife" in a trice by a priest or a magistrate.

The Elaborate Vedic Marriage Ritual

As against that the Indian wedding had been an elaborate ritual spread out over four or five days, attended by hundreds of relations and friends who had to be housed and feasted. The marriage itself was solemnized in front of a sacred fire with the bride and groom being put through a number of ceremonies to the chanting of Vedic mantras by a group of professional priests for at least half week.

In comparison the Western mode of marriage in a trice, appeared to be short, quick and sweet. To the couple it was doubly sweet because they could immediately embrace and kiss each other in front of the whole gathering.

Christian Wedding Not Rooted in the Bible

It is usually believed that the European Christian wedding is based on the Bible while the Hindu wedding is rooted in the Vedas. This is a misconception. Marriages all over the world are based exclusively on Vedic tradition.

Nikah

It is Vedic practice which enjoins that marriages must be solemnized by professional priests who were administrators and

supervisors of public, social, matrimonial morality. Therefore, marriages till today are solemnized by priests even in Islam. And the Islamic word NIKAH is the Sanskrit word Nikat i.e. (bringing a man and woman) close.

Clasping the Hand

In Vedic terminology marriages are known as 'Paanigrahana' where 'paani' signifies the hand, while 'grahana' signifies grasping or clasping.

Is not European expression the same, namely "giving the bride's hand in marriage" and "taking the bride's hand in marriage"? Therefore the so-called Christian (or Muslim or Jew or any other) marriages are in fact Vedic 'Paani-grahana'.

But that is not all. There is plenty of more evidence. The entire terminology is Vedic Sanskrit. To get a clearer idea let us consider a connected side-issue.

Hand Shake

When people meet and greet one another all over the world they usually clasp each other's hand in a warm hand-shake. Literally-speaking that is also 'paani-grahan'. However the distinction between a casual, formal greeting hand-shake and a clasping of the bride's hand by the groom is ingrained in the word 'wedding' itself. The former is never dubbed a 'wedding' while the latter is invariably referred to as a wedding, precisely because while an everyday handshake is never accompanied by Vedic chants, a groom's clasping of the bride's hand must necessarily be accompanied by sacred Vedic recitals because that entails life-long adherence to certain strict norms of conduct. This should awaken everyone to the fact that the word spelled as 'Wedding' is in fact 'Ved-ding'. This should leave no one in any doubt that what are mistaken to be Christian (or Muslim or any other) weddings are in fact Vedic rituals. This also incidentally proves what is stated above namely that Vedic culture has been a common heritage.

Basically sexual relations are considered indecent and dangerous and are, therefore, conducted in seclusion and privacy. Yet marital

sex is given the widest publicity through invitations and public celebration, and is considered the most sanctimonious because it is intended to be the foundation of a happy home where the progeny is well looked-after in keeping with the divine design of planned, peaceful procreation.

Vedic chants and ritual make all the difference in transforming what is basically secret, indecent and dangerous into what is public, sacred and socially useful.

That indirectly proves that the Vedas are God's own words and that every marriage anywhere, desired to last and lead to a peaceful and happy domestic life, must be solemnized with Vedic chants and ritual.

The Sanskrit derivation of the word wedding and the Vedic sanction behind it are also corroborated by other terms associated with this husband-wife business.

Wedlock

Consider the kin word 'wedlock'. It signifies a man and woman 'locked' together as husband and wife for the rest of their lives by Vedic chanting with divine Vedic authority, because Vedas are the word of God, entrusted to humanity at the start of the cosmos.

Marital Knot

All Christian weddings too observe the Vedic tradition of tying the ends of the bride's and groom's apparel into a knot. That marital knot symbolizes their physical and psychological union. Prince Charles and Lady Diana of Britain too had their apparel tied into a mutual knot to symbolise their wedding in London some years back. Tying a marital knot is a hoary Hindu custom too only because it is Vedic. Those words 'knot' and 'wedlock' are exact translations of the Vedic, Sanskrit term **Vivaha Bandhan**

Husband

Now consider the word 'husband'. That is the Sanskrit, Vedic term 'hust-bandh' where 'hust' is the 'hand' and 'bandh' is the 'tie' because the Vedic ritual literally ties the hands of the

two together, symbolizing a sacred union of mutual continence which is not to be transgressed by extra-marital relations by either the groom or the bride.

Bride

Now look at the word 'bride'. The Sanskrit equivalent is 'Vadhu'. After the discontinuance of Sanskrit education in ancient England, the word Vadhu came to be mistakenly pronounced as 'bradu' and later as 'bride.

Giving away the Bride

Vedic tradition recognizes a woman's personality to be very fragile and yet very precious, like gold. Therefore, it lays down that a woman must never be left adrift to fend for herself. For this a father must protect her during childhood, the husband during her adulthood and the son during her old age. Consequently, the father (or an equivalent elderly guardian) must formally entrust her custody and honour to a suitable groom (a well-wishing responsible, strong man) when marrying her off. That formal handing over is known as 'Kanya-dan' in Vedic Sanskrit parlance. European Christians too, to this very day, sacrosanctly follow that Vedic dictum by observing the formality of 'giving away the bride' though in actual modern Western practice women generally marry on their own, spurning the idea of being given away as mere chattel by anybody to anybody. This Vedic practice is based on the divine dictum that a society which doesn't protect and enshrine its women in secure family-life gets disturbed and destroyed. In every well-ordered Vedic family the man is the central pole, the bride is the radius and the children the circumference of the family circle. Thus Vedic injunctions totally rule out a prostitutional or night-club role for women.

Bride's Maid

Every Western wedding provides for one or more maids for the bride. This is a very thoughtful, far-sighted Vedic custom. A bride-to-be is like a plant transplanted from the nursery on to a new field. An adolescent girl uprooted from her parental home

and sought to be rehabilitated in the groom's family, where she has to cohabit with a total stranger, called her husband, badly needs some senior, 'experienced' woman confident with whom she may share her thoughts, needs and difficulties, if any. Therefore, Vedic wedding procedures provide for intimate adult women confidents to stay with the bride for a few days to keep liaison with her maternal/paternal home until she feels confident to 'sail' on her own in the new family. This bridesmaid-custom faithfully observed in so-called Western Christian weddings also proves that all those who profess to be Christians (Muslims or Jews) today are convert descendants of people who were members of a unitary world Vedic community.

Matrimonial

The term 'matrimonial' seemingly Western and Christian, is in fact Vedic-Sanskrit.

In Sanskrit Vedic parlance the term 'matri-mana-la' (मातृ-मन-ल) signifies a relationship forged with a mind (mana) to acquire motherhood (matri).

Conjugal

Likewise the term 'conjugal' can be recognized to be Sanskrit on analysis.

The Sanskrit word 'yugal' (pronounced 'jugal' by many) signifies a 'couple'.

The first syllable 'con' ought to pronounced as (सं) 'san' and not as 'kon' because the alphabetical pronunciation of 'C' is 'S' as in 'civic'. The word 'San' means 'wholesome, auspicious, blissful' in Sanskrit. Consequently, the Sanskrit term 'Sanyugal' signifies a couple joined by wedding for the felicitous and sacred, divine objective of procreation, because sheer sexual enjoyment is nothing but prostitution. Consequently, the Western, Christian term (संयुगल) conjugal is also Sanskrit Vedic.

Showering Rice

A Vedic marriage is solemnized by showering the couple with

rice or similar local grain tinged with turmeric, by way of an invocation, that while on earth they may never fall short of mundane resources.

So-called Christian marriages in the West meticulously cling to this Vedic custom too as will be apparent from the following report which was carried by all leading English dailies throughout the world on April 19, 1979, "At the wedding at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA, of tennis stars Chris Evert and John Lloyd, at which 600 spectators showered them with rice supplied by the police.... At 7 P.M. a police officer told the crowd that the couple was wed, then asked 'who's got the rice? When it was discovered that rice had been overlooked in the careful wedding plans, a squad car was despatched. A few minutes later a patrolman returned and distributed five bags of rice to the crowd."

Rice Strewn Even At Muslim Weddings

The Vedic custom of the bride walking into her marital home over a kicked measure of rice is observed even among Muslims, as will be apparent from a newspaper report of the marriage of Aga Khan IV, spiritual head of 20 million Ismailies in 25 countries, a few years back.

The report said that the Chief of Hunza, a mountainous principality near Afghanistan, which still calls its ruler, Rama, contributed 50 pearls to be strewn along with rice for the bridal couple to step over at Aga Khan's marriage. The Aga Khan is a citizen of Iran. His followers, the Ismailies are Shias.

All such details narrated above prove that so-called Christian and Islamic weddings emanate from Vedic tradition. From this one may also ipso facto reach a wider conclusion namely that as per tradition divinity did indeed bestow mankind with the Sanskrit books of knowledge (the Vedas) which codify the rules governing the cosmos and the rules which must govern human affairs, at the very start of the world about 2000 million years ago.

Miss and Mrs.

It may be observed that while a man's marital status is never

revealed in the honorific prefix used with his name, the mention of a woman's name has always been traditionally linked with her marital status as Miss and Mrs.

Modern women's lib. protagonists ignorantly cite that as one more instance of the derogatory discrimination to which women are subject, in a world order "dictated by the chauvinistic male", as they put it.

This accusation or grouse also arises from an ignorance of mankind's Vedic heritage.

Humankind's law-giver, the Great Manu had thoughtfully foreseen that while the mere male can withstand a blow or two in the rough and tumble of a cruel world without any serious damage to his person, or injury to his psyche, the grace and softness of a woman's personality needed all the protection that a society can afford.

Therefore, Manu has pinned the primary responsibility for the well-being of a young, unmarried daughter on her father, that of a married woman on her husband and of the elderly mother on her son, and warned society that it must never shirk its responsibility to protect women and that it must not leave women to fend for themselves amidst exploitative social sharks and hounds.

As a part of that thoughtful arrangement a woman's marital status as Miss or Mrs. was invariably made a part of her name so that the society at large should be clear as to who is responsible for her well-being and protection.

In the case of unmarried women the 'Miss' prefix always served to remind her friends, relations, and well-wishers and the community at large that they must all find a proper groom for her. So, the use of the term 'Miss' was a kind of a constant matrimonial advertisement.

Contrarily the Mrs. prefix served as a warning and notice to all concerned that the woman concerned was no more open to offers or advances for marriage.

Thus what was intended to be a very far-sighted, loving, solicitous and protective provision, is being currently cited as a discriminatory practice. This is yet one more instance of how ignorance of history perverts people's outlook.

Why Arranged Marriages?

Vedic social order envisages only arranged marriages (and not the 'boy-meets-girl' type of free mating) because the Vedic system enjoins marital sex as a sacramental, sociological duty in the divine scheme of procreation. Consequently sex for sheer pleasure and enjoyment is sternly ruled out.

Actually this Vedic dictum meant by divinity for human beings is being unconsciously enforced by humans themselves on animal and plant life. For instance, entrepreneurs who aim at breeding quality animals rule out free mating and enforce controlled mating or artifical insemination on chicken, dogs, horses and milch-cattle. If man as endowed with superior intelligence and power enforces such restrictions on animals does it not stand to reason that divinity (endowed with more power and more intelligence than humans) should insist on similar arranged mating (i.e.arranged marriages) and frown upon free sex, to ensure pedigree human beings?

It is that pedigree ideal which is clearly outlined in the great Law-Giver Manu's famous dictum

> अस्मद्देश प्रसूतस्य सकाशात् अग्रजन्मन:
> स्वं स्वं चरित्रम् शिक्षेरन् पृथिव्यां सर्व मानवा: ॥

meaning "May human beings everywhere emulate the life-style of the foremost species of humans nurtured in this land (India)."

Thus under the Vedic system elders in the family advised by their astro-consultants and Vaidyas (family physicians) used to choose the match for their marriageable progeny.

The term 'astrologer' is these days misunderstood to mean a novice fortune-teller bent on making easy money.

Under the Vedic sociological system the family astral-consultant

was a highly qualified bio-mathematician entrusted with the duty of maintaining astral charts for all memorable events and for all persons born as a valuable historical record and also to keep a tab on fluctuations in health and fortune of every person's life.

Under the Vedic system astrologers are intended to be expert bio-scientists who match horoscopes of the bride and groom as per a specific chart on considerations of marital compatibility, good progeny and longevity.

The horoscope is a divine chart of the mechanism that constitutes every human personality and is, therefore, as scientific a document as the ground-plan of a building, the design-drawings of an airship or the circuitry chart of a TV set.

To realize the high scientific importance of the horoscope let us consider a few examples. In the clinic of a physician we notice the picture of a human skeleton. That indicates that Western medical science regards the human system as a drainage chart. But that chart will be identical for a fat or lean person, a handsome or ugly individual, an affluent person or pauper and a brave person or a coward. Those considerations don't ordinarily enter a doctor's calculations.

Ayurved (the Vedic medical science) goes a step further and regards the three humours (i.e. gas, phlegm and bile) constituting a man's live personality as the basic constituents of a person's fluctuating state of health and moods.

Astrology goes the farthest inasmuch as it deals with every aspect of a person's life namely his colour, complexion, stature, mental-make up, virtues, vices, life-span, fortune, profession etc. There is nothing which astrology leaves. Consequently astrology is a thorough science with a profound role encompassing every aspect of human life.

It is such a comprehensive science which the Vedic system has placed at the service of breeding pedigree human beings.

If human beings ignore it that shall be at their own peril. The West (including West Asia) largely converted to Christianity

and Islam, has not only alienated itself from Vedic marital regimen but has thrown to the winds all restrictions in matters of sex by wife-swapping, strip-tease, nude performances, night club frolic, the licentiousness at 5-star hotels, belly-dancing, pre-marital sex, free love etc. All this is one day going to bring the world of venereal diseases crashing down on the heads of humanity.

A foretaste of such painful deformity, disease and death has already made its appearance in affluent United States of America. As the wealthiest, gayest and free-est nation of the contemporary world, which doesn't brook any trammels on the "I do what I bloody well please' tendency of man, the USA permits homo-sexual night clubs, lesbian groups and even uni-sex marriages. As a result of such sexy licentiousness (as opposed to the strict Vedic code of arranged marriages and restraint even between bride and groom united with Vedic chants) a dreaded, hydra-headed omni-disease has made its appearance in the United States of America. That condition known as Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), which signifies a total break-down of the human physical immunity system threatens to reduce humanity to festering, moronic lumps of flesh afflicted with any and every disease on earth.

Apart from licentious sexual behaviour the extreme artificiality that goes with every aspect of American life such as pesticides, use of drugs, administering pain-killers to pregnant women etc. may also have a role in the appearance of AIDS.

The AIDS condition is so deeply dreaded in the U.S.A that even near-relations, friends, hospital staff and even undertakers are refusing to handle the patient or his body lest they themselves be victims.

The remedy for all this is to live strictly by Vedic rules and rituals and remain close to Nature as far as possible.

Veil

Curiously enough the Western Christian bride wears the veil too as do Hindu brides in Vedic weddings.

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THE VEDIC ORIGIN OF WORLD MUSIC

One of the greatest proofs of humanity having had a head-start with a divine Vedic civilization is found in the universality of Vedic music.

The current notion that man developed language, music, medicine, science, technology etc. beginning from a wild, cave-man stage does not seem to be plausible.

Likewise, the notion that Eastern and Western music developed independently of each other is not right.

All music originated from the Samaved (सामवेद). The Biblical stanzas are known as psalms precisely because the stanzas of Samaved (and other Vedas) used to be sung in Europe prior to Christianity. The word 'psalm' is also a typical instance of how Sanskrit words have got camouflaged in (so-called) European languages, by the addition or deletion of a letter or two. The word 'psalm' may be noticed to be the Sanskrit word 'Sama' though the European spelling has burdened that word with some additional letters such as 'p' and 'l.'

Samaved lays down the ground-rules for music. Along with music, dance, painting and drama are considered sacred arts in the Vedic tradition. Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva, the Eternal Trinity constitute the first orchestra. Shiva as Natraj, the cosmic dancer worked out the various modes of rhythm while Brahma and Vishnu accentuate the time-beat. Brahma clangs the cymbals. Vishnu beats

the mrudangam (drum). Saraswati plays the Veena and Lord Krishna, the flute.

Vedic ragas are fixed melodic scales. The six basic ragas branch out into 126 derivative Raginis (wives) and putras (sons). Each raga is based on a minimum of five notes. The leading note (Vadi) is the king and the secondary note (Samvadi) is the prime minister with attendant (anuvadi) notes and a dissonant (vivadi) note tantamount to the rival opponent.

Each of the six basic ragas is attuned to a certain hour of the day or night and season of the year and a presiding deity bestows a particular benediction and potency on the note. The Hindola is appropriate for the dawn in spring, evoking a mood of universal love. It brings to mind the gentle rocking of an open-air swing. (2) Deepak Raga is played during summer-evenings to arouse compassion. (3) Megha Raga is for the monsoon-season noon hour to instil courage. (4) Bhairava is assigned to the mornings from August to October to strike a note of tranquility. (5) Sri Raga represents pure love, and is considered fit for autumnal twilights. (6) Malkaunsa Raga is regarded as appropriate for the midnight hour.

Vedic music divides the Octave into 22 Sruties i.e. demi-semitones. The corresponding Western chromatic scale is limited to only 12 semitones.

The seven basic Vedic notes are associated with the natural colours and the cry of a bird or animal.

Vedic music outlines 72 scales. Sanskrit literature describes 120 talas (time-measures). Bharata the ancient master-musician is said to have analysed the song of a lark into 32 talas. The Sanskrit word for a musician is Bhagavatar i.e. one extolling divinity through music, indicating that Vedic tradition rules out profanity in all human activity. Musical gatherings are known as Sankritan i.e. collective singing in praise of divinity.

Strabo observes "From the song, the rhythm and the

instruments all Thracian music is supposed to be Asiatic. Those who regard the whole of Asia as far as India consecrated to Bacchus, refer to that country as the origin of a great portion of the present music. One author speaks of 'striking forcibly the Asiatic Cithara.'[1] Thus even the ancient Greek author, Strabo is certain that music originated in Vedic India.

The Sanskrit word 'Tara' signifies a metallic wire, animal gut or the string of a musical instrument. Thus one way of naming musical instruments is by specifying accurately or approximately the number of wires strung in it. An instrument with one wire (used in India) is known as Ektara (एकतार) or Ektari, those with seven wires, is known as (सप्ततार) Sapta-tar (alias Sitar or Citar), those with 100, (or thereabout) wires is called a (शततार) 'Centaur'. There the syllable 'cent' is in fact the Sanskrit word (शत) 'Shat' (i.e. one hundred). Here it may be noticed how 'n' has been interpolated to make the Sanskrit term 'Shat' sound as 'Cent.'

Sangeet

The Sanskrit word 'Sangeet' connotes instrumental music because 'San' signifies 'accompanying' and 'geet' signifies the song.

That this same Sanskrit word (संगीत) 'Sangeet' was also commonly used in Europe of the pre-Christian era, is apparent from cognate English terms such as sing, song, singer, and singing.

Music

The term 'music' these days, used both for vocal and instrumental music, originates in the Sanskrit word 'Maukhik' i.e. 'of the mouth' i.e. connoting vocal music.

Vocal

The term 'vocal' is the Sanskrit term (वाचल) 'vachal' i.e. pertaining to 'vacha' i.e. the human voice alias speech.

(1) P. 187, Vol. II of Strabo's Geography.

From this it should be apparent that the term 'Viva Voci' is the Sanskrit term (जीव वाचा) 'Jiva Vacha', i.e. the actual voice of the living person.

Gargle

The term 'gargle' is also Sanskrit since the Sanskrit term (गल) 'gala' means the 'throat' and the earlier syllable 'gar' is the sound produced while gargling.

The term 'guzzle' meaning 'swallow' is an instance of how Sanskrit syllables got transposed in Western languages. The original Sanskrit word 'galag' (signifying something sent down the throat) has come to be spelled as guzzle. This will be apparent from the Islamic term 'gazal' that too is 'galag' i.e. emanating from the throat. There too the Sanskrit syllables change places.

Muslim Defilement of Music

During Islamic rule in India (1206 to 1858 A.D) all commerical music was chained to prostitutional revelry in Muslim courts. In the process a large number of musicians (vocalists as well as instrumentalists) got willy nilly converted to Islam. This gave rise to the myth that music was of Muslim origin, that Muslim courts patronized or encouraged music, that Muslims have made a great contribution to music, and that they designed several muscial instruments.

Music at Funerals

All those are motivated canards. Islamic fundamentalism frowns on music, while in Vedic tradition vocal and instrumental music is a necessary part of all human rituals; so much so that Vedic tradition provides for music to be played all along the route while even a body is carried on the bier for cremation. The idea is to regard death as but the end of the earthly part of the soul's itinerary. The soul, therefore, deserves a loving, musical farewell at the end of a part played well. Since death, in Vedic tradition, signifies but a change of the soul's role and a change of scene and act in divinity's eternal drama the departed soul is given a ceremonial

farewell with soulful music in Vedic practice.

Music-A Vedic Science

The Vedic science of music is a detailed technical study involving years of meticulous training under an elderly and experienced guide known as the guru.

The entire musical terminology is exclusively of Vedic origin. The names of the various tunes are all Sanskrit. The songs, mostly in praise of various deities, especially Krishna, are all Sanskrit. The dynasties which cultivate the art of music from generation to generation, are known as gharanas. That again is a Sanskrit word from 'ghar' i.e. 'griha' i.e. household.

Islam has no science of music. It has no use for music. Music originates in finer sentiments, in a solicitous reverence for all life and a desire to sing the praise of divinity as the creator and sustainer of this mysterious cosmos.

Muslim or pro-Muslim writers have jumped to unwarranted conclusions from the profligate musical revelries at Muslim courts. They have not only propagated the myth of a Muslim encouragement to music but have also ignorantly ascribed the origin of several musical instruments such as the Tabla and Sitar to Muslims.

Muslim Degradation of Music

The Tabla and the Sitar and all other musical instruments are of very anceint Vedic origin. Far from Muslim courts encouraging and elevating music, that art which was maintained at a high divine and devout level under the Vedic dispensation, was dragged down to the courtesan level by Islam.

The ghazals and Kavvalias which the Muslims sing at tombs in India are not because of Islam but in spite of Islam. All Muslims in India being converts from Hindudom they have carried with them into Islam their tradition of singing devotional songs in the name of divinity. But according to Arab and Iranian tradition that is a sacrilege.

Muslim Funeral of Music

Aurangzeb, the 17th century Mogul emperor of India had forbidden his courtiers from attending any musical programmes. Consequently, the courtesans of Delhi lost their clientele. That put a number of musicians out of employment in Delhi. To bring their plight to the notice of the emperor the music-fraternity organized a funeral procession in which they carried on a bier an effigy representing the muse of music. As they proceeded along the thoroughfare they set up a loud wail as though grieving for the departed soul. When the emperor inquired about the cause for such loud public mourning he was informed that the musicians put out of business were carrying the muse of music for burial. Aurangzeb was mighty pleased. Consequently his message conveyed to the mourners was that music should be buried so deep as never to be able to raise its head ever again any more. Aurangzeb regarded himself a deputy of Allah on earth, and in banning music he was only carrying out Allah 's wish. Islam thus stands for a total negation of all art and finer sentiments of human nature. The only art it admits is calligraphy and that too is confined to the Koran. The Muslim contriubtion to the development of music is thus not only zero, it is minus because of its massacre orgies.

Tansen's Fake C...

The motivated Muslim concoctions about the Islamic contribution to music must never be believed. If during the last one century or so we hear of a large number of Muslim names amongst renowned musicians, a little probe will reveal that due to generations of association with Muslim court-life those hapless Hindu artists got willy nilly converted. Some, like the well known Tansen remained devout Hindus till the end. But the Muslim appellation of Miya, (the Islamic equivalent of Mr.) was deliberately prefixed to his name and his name was made to sound Muslim. Though he died in Lahore a fake cenotaph was erected in his name in Gwalior and eversince an annual music-festival is held around that fake grave.

The Khusro Canard

Amir Khurso, a fanatic Muslim general of Sultan Allauddin Khilji's cruel entourage is lauded as a great saint-poet. In Muslim tradition anybody and everybody plundering, torturing, terrorizing or massacring non-Muslims is lauded as a Sufi saint. Amir Khusro is one such. He sings of cooling the temper of his Islamic sword in the blood of Kafirs. Such an Amir Khusro is said to have struck upon the idea of splitting the Mrudungam (the single egg-shaped drum with two faces) into two pieces, as Tabla and Dagga. This is a canard. Both the Mrudungam and the Tabla-Dagga pair are ancient Hindu Vedic percussion instruments. The Mrudungam was generally used by peripatetic minstrels who had to sing standing and dancing. The Tabla and Dagga were used for squatting performances. The Tabla is a Sanskrit word where the first syllable 'Ta' signifies 'Taal' i.e. the rhythmic beat, while the other syllable 'bala' signifies its strength or potency. Moreover, the Tabla is a wooden cylinder while the Dagga has a metallic body. Therefore, the notion that the Tabla and Dagga constitute but two pieces of the Mrudungam, is incorrect.

Sanskrit Terminology

Even the fancied European terminology of Music is all of Vedic, Sanskrit origin.

The term Tambour is the Hindu word Tambora which is very common in Indian music. A man handling the Tambora is known in Sanskrit as 'Tambora-dhar'. In Europe that same term got corrupted to troubadour.

The term 'Harmonium' is generally regarded as European but it is purely Vedic. To understand this let us analyse the term 'Harmonium'. There the last syllable 'um' can be easily detected to be Sanskrit because that is a very common neuter-gender ending in Sanskrit. It signifies 'pertaining to'. The seven basic notes of the Vedic science of music are -'saa, ray, ga, ma, pa, dha, nee' (सा-रे-ग-म-प-ध-नी). Of these, (ग-प-ध) 'ga, pa,dha' are eliminated and the scale is abridged to contain only, the 1st, 2nd, 4th and

last namely (सा-रे-म-नी) 'saa, ray, ma, nee'. It may now be remembered that 's' and 'h' are interchangeable (as Sindhu becomes Hindu). Therefore the four basic notes could be said to be has-ray-mo-nee (हा-रे-म-नी). To this we affix the Sanskrit ending 'um' and we get the world 'Harmonium'. Thus the realization that the word 'Harmonium' is composed of the basic notes of the Vedic science of music, though it appears to be European, is proof enough that all music, whether Western or Eastern is of Vedic origin. Incidentally it may also be noted here (from the above illustration) that the English word 'harmony' too is of Sanskrit origin.

Drum

The English word 'drum' is a corruption of the Sanskrit word 'damru'. Lord Shiva is depicted as holding a 'damru' in his hand. A transposition of the two syllables of the Sanskrit 'damru' has resulted in the English word 'drum'.

Band

The English word 'band' indicates a group of musicians alias an orchestra. The Sanskrit word is Vrind. Since 'V' is often pronounced as 'b' 'Vrind' came to be pronounced first as 'brind' and later as 'band'. Another derivation is the Sanskrit word (बंध) 'bandh' indicating a 'tie' and, therefore, a group tied together as a musical ensemble, is a band.

Piccaoli

One of the pipes forming part of a Western orchestra is known as 'Piccaoli'. That is because the bird cuckoo renowned for its sweet notes is known as (पिक:) Pica (pronounced as Pika) in Sanskrit. So also the term 'avali' in Sanskrit, signifies a 'row'. Therefore the term (पिकावलि) Piccaoli signifies a pipe producing a row of notes as sweet as those of a cuckoo. From this word too it should be apparent that European music is of Vedic, Sanskrit origin. The natural conclusion, therefore, is that the Vedas and Sanskrit come at the very start of all human civilization.

Kavvali

The Islamic word (कव्वाली) Kavvali has a similar Sanskrit connotation. Kavvali is supposed to be a popular Muslim tune. Kavya in Sanskrit signifies poetry and 'awali' is a 'row'. Therefore Kavvali alias Kavyawali (काव्यावली) amounts to a row of versified lines.

Violin

The violin is popularly believed to be a Western musical instrument with a European name. But that is a misconception. Violin is a Sanskrit term. The Sanskrit word 'jeev' connoting a life or soul is pronounced as 'bio' in Greek, 'vive' in French, and 'live' in English. The first syllable 'vio' in the term violin, is that term 'viva' meaning 'life' or 'soul'. The latter syllable 'lin' is almost the English word 'lean' i.e. 'incline towards'. The Sanskrit word (लीन) 'leen' too implies losing oneself or merging oneself with something. Therefore, the term 'violin' (जीव लीन) signifies a musical instrument producing such enchanting music that the listener (or player) forgets himself and leans towards the melody or merges his life and soul in its mellifluous melody.

Guitar

The term guitar too is of Sanskrit origin. The Sanskrit word 'geet' signifies a song. 'Taar' stands for the muscial string or wire. Consequently geet-tar' (गीत तार) 'alias' 'guitar' represents a string twanged to the accompaniment of a song.

Harp

Harp is also a Sanskrit word. In the Vedic musical tradition all stringed instruments were known as Veena. There were in all 64 such Veenas, each distinguished by some figure associated with it. The number of strings, their resonance and the shape of each Veena varied. Thus, for instance, the Mayur Veena had the figure of a mayur (peacock) adorning it. In like manner there was a Hans (Swan) Veena, a Naarad Veena (which the celestial saint Naarad always carried), Vichitra Veena (i.e. a special kind of Veena

with picturesque resonance), Saraswati Veena (of goddess Saraswati) and so on. Among them was Sarp Veena which was so known because it had a serpentine frame.

Later the common noun Veena got dropped and the instrument was called briefly as 'Sarp'. And since 's' and 'h' are interchangeable (as the word semisphere is spelled as hemisphere) Sarp (Veena) came to be called 'harp'. Therefore, the harp too belongs to the Vedic musical tradition.

Let us now consider the Piano. Veena was the original Sanskrit word. Since 'V' is often prononced as 'b' Veena came to be pronounced as 'beena'. Beena turned into beano and beano changed to piano. 'B' and 'P' are interchangeable as may be seen in the termination 'pury' (signifying a township) changing to 'bury' (as in 'Waterbury). So the term piano too is of Sanskrit origin.

Lilting

Very enchanting music is often termed in English as 'lilting'. That is because the Sanskrit word for anything with a tender, emotional appeal, is 'lalit'. All literature and art having such an appeal, is grouped under the Sanskrit adjective 'lalit'.

Though in this volume we generally point out the Vedic origin only of English terms yet the reader may be sure that the Sanskrit derivation must hold true for all languages because man's speech began with Sanskrit - the first and only language bestowed by divinity on mankind.

It may also be noticed that starting from India the British isles lie at the very other end of the European continent. If, therefore, these two countries, India and England, are seen to be joined by a common Sanskrit link, scholars must learn to conclude that other European countries in between and in fact other continents too must have been strung to that same cultural and linguistic chain. Therefore, scholars of other languages and regions may hereafter look for their Sanskrit links mutatis mutandis on the lines indicated in this volume.

We have already pointed out above that 'harp' is the 'sarp' (Veena) of Vedic tradition. Angus og the Keltic God of Love and Son of Dagda possesses a harp of pure gold. The earliest known use of a bow for a musical instrument has been traced to India. The lute, often seen in the hands of the Hindu goddess, Saraswati, is not unknown in Scotland.

The very name Angus og of the Keltic God of Love is obviously the corresponding Sanskrit, Vedic name (अनंग) Un Ang Deo (the Vedic God of Love).

Angus-og is a corruption of the name of the Vedic God of Love Ananga (अनंग). The name Dagda is the Sanskrit word Daghda (दग्ध) meaning 'burnt.' The Vedic God of Love having been burnt down by an angry Lord Shiva (whose penance had been disturbed) was known as Daghda (दग्ध). Therefore Daghda (the burnt one) is as though the father while his new incarnation Anang (alias Angus Og) namely one who is now a mere body-less 'spirit' is the 'son'.

♦♦

THE VEDIC ORIGIN OF PROSODY

The term prosody signifies the science of versification. That word 'prosody' is Sanskrit. In Sanskrit (प्रसाद) 'prasaad' is that which is benignly bestowed and is, therefore, pleasing both to the donor and the beneficiary. Consequently, in Vedic tradition verse is distinguished from prose because of its pleasing attributes such as its alliteration, its rhyme and rhythm. Even the word 'rhyme' and 'rhythm' originate in the Sanskrit word (हृदयम्) Rhidyam (i.e. hearty). Rhyme and rhythm are so named because they grip the (हृदयम्) Rhidayam i.e. heart.

A verse in order to be pleasing to the heart and the mind, must be (प्रसादि) 'praasaadi' i.e. it should have attributes which attract the heart. 'Praasaadi' is therefore, the distinguishing trait of all verse. In European languages Sanskrit 'a' is often replaced by 'o'. Consequently the Sanskrit word 'prasadi' is spelled in English as 'prosody'. It will thus be seen that English and every other language is totally Sanskrit. The sooner all European lexicographers realize this truth, the better it will be for future flawless tuition in all branches of human knowledge including linguistics.

A verse has to have proper well-defined, measured units making up its lines. Such a unit is (चरण) 'charan' in Sanskrit. The corresponding measure of European (English) prosody is 'foot' which is an exact translation of the Sanskrit word 'charan'. A man's foot is reverently known as 'charan' alias 'paad' in Sanskrit.

In fact it is the Sanskrit synonym (of charan), 'paad' which is being mispronounced in English as 'foot'. As explained earlier Sanskrit 'a' is replaced by 'o' in European languages. Therefore, Sanskrit 'paad' changes to 'pood'. Similarly Sanskrit 'p' is pronounced as 'f' in Europe . For instance, the word 'pitar' is turned into 'father'. Therefore, 'pood' became 'food'. So also Sanskrit 'd' changes to 't' in English. For instance, the word 'dant' turns into 'tooth' in English. Similarly the term 'food' changed to foot. Thus we see how the Sanskrit word 'paad' turns into 'foot' in English.

In Sanskrit prosody 'charan' alias 'paad' constitutes the unit of a line of verse. The same unit, viz. 'foot' is adhered to in English prosody too. Those who believe that English grammar and English prosody are different from that of Sanskrit may note from the above explanation that grammar and prosody and every other branch of learning has no existence independent of Sanskrit, because Sanskrit was the first and only common language of mankind for ages before mankind divided into different linguistic and administrative communities. Differences of grammar arose later after corruptions of Sanskrit drifted farther and farther away from their parent source namely Sanskrit. Thus, for instance, the Sanskrit rule of 'Sandhi' that is intermingling of letters still holds good in English. As an illustration, take the term Jagannath (i.e. Lord of the World). That is made up of two words 'Jagat' and 'nath'. Coming in quick succession they merge and form a single word 'Jagannath' in which the last letter of the first word changes to the letter 'n' which is the first letter of the second word 'nath'. Consequently, Jagatnath turns into Jagannath. That same rule applies to English too. The words 'in-limitable' or 'in-legal' merge to form new single words such as 'illimitable' and 'illegal'. There too the last letter of the first word takes on the sound of the first letter of the next word.

Panini

In view of the foregoing discussion Panini's grammar must rank as the parent grammar of all human speech and not of Sanskrit

alone.

Panini and his times also need some clarification. Is Panini the name of an institution? That is to say, like Shankaracharya was Panini the pioneer of the Sanskrit grammar tradition, after whom every successor also bore the same name? Currently Panini's times are not known. Some scholars believe that Panini lived in the 4th century B.C. while others imagine Panini to have lived several centuries later.

Since 'grammar' forms part of the 10-Volume comprehensive (10-branches) Vedic learning it could be that grammar too was bestowed by divinity along with the Vedas. In that case Panini could be the name of the initial sage who specialized in Vedic-Sanskrit grammar. That could have been the origin of the Sanskrit grammar-tradition and every master-grammarian continuing the original Panini line of grammar-studies may have sported the name Panini. Therefore, the Panini alluded to by modern scholars, and identified with a particular era, from clues found in his writings, may be a latter-day successor of the original master or it may be that the clues are being wrongly interpreted and wrongly identified. Those fancied clues may not be applicable to the person or time envisaged. Scholars may consider this as an alternative hypothesis to the several that they have before them in identifying Panini and his times. But in any case Panini must rank as the father of all grammar and not that of Sanskrit alone.

Poet and Bard

A person capable of composing poems is termed a poet alias bard. Both these are Sanskrit terms.

In the ancient Vedic tradition persons with poetic talent were known as (भाट) 'bhaat'. They either wandered as singing minstrels or were attached to royal courts. Since Sanskrit 'b' changes to English 'p' and 'a' is substituted by 'o' the Sanskrit word 'bhaat' turned into poet in English.

Prithviraj Chauhan, the brave Kshatriya ruler of the closing

years of the 12th century in India had a 'bhaat' alias court poet named 'Chand'. He was known also as 'Bardai' alias 'bard'. That should serve as convincing proof that the words 'poet' and 'bard' are synonyms of Sanskritic origin. They continue to be used in English in the same sense even today. This should leave no one in any doubt that the tradition of the British Isles and of every European country, is entirely Vedic.

The Ballad

The Ballad is a heroic poem usually recounting the mighty deeds of past heroes to inspire contemporaries. That term 'Ballad' is the Sanskrit term बल-द (Bala-da) i.e. 'that which imparts strength, energy and inspiration.' This little detail again proves how Sanskrit language and Vedic culture are at the root of all human tradition.

♦♦

SANSKRIT NOMENCLATURE OF WORLD COINAGE

That almost all world currencies bear names which can be traced back to Sanskrit is one of the proofs indicating that Sanskrit was a world language for millions of years under the universal unitary Vedic administration.

The term coin is itself derived from the Sanskrit word 'Kanak' meaning gold. Under the ancient worldwide Vedic economy, coins of gold and silver, the two precious metals, were used for currency because of their intrinsic value and numerous uses in Vedic life.

The term 'cash' originates in the Sanskrit word 'Kasa' for bronze signifying that this metal was used sometime in ancient Britain for coinage.

The word 'money' derives from the Sanskrit term 'mana' which used to be an ancient gold coin. It is the frequent use of 'mana' in ancient determination of values and payments as remuneration and wages that led to the word 'money'. Mana in Sanskrit is also a standard (of value).

The term 'rupee' is derived from (रौप्यम्) 'Raupyam' for 'silver' in Sanskrit.

Paisa is a common word in India. It has two meanings. One is that it used to signify a basic copper coin. In a broader, collective sense it implies all the cash or all wealth that a person possesses. The French word Piastra is a corruption of the word 'Paisa'.

In Spain and Spanish territories we see the same word pronounced as 'Peso'.

The Saudi Arabian legal tender is Rial. In Sanskrit the ruler is known as Raya. The currency issued under his authority used to be termed 'rayal'. The term Rial is an Arabic pronunciation of the word 'rayal'. This is strong proof that in pre-Islamic times Arabia used to be administered by Sanskrit-speaking Kshatriya Rayas.

The Russian Rouble gets its name from the Sanskrit compound 'rajya-bal' alias 'raya-bal' meaning 'strength of the realm'.

Dinar was a widely used ancient coin. It has a double Sanskrit derivation. One is that it is the (दीनानाम् आधार:) 'aadhar' i.e. 'the support' of the 'deen' i.e. the poor. Its other meaning is based on the Sanskrit word 'din' signifying it to be a means of day-to day support.

The highly Sanskritized nomenclature of British currency is yet another proof of the deep-rooted Vedic tradition of the British Isles. That despite such multilateral proof, no scholar had any inkling of the basic Vedic tradition of Great Britain, is a measure of the worldwide ignorance of world history.

The word 'Sovereign' indicating a gold coin is the Sanskrit-term (स्व-राजन्) Swa-rajan i.e. 'one's own king', since the coin used to bear the sovereign's portrait.

The 'Guinea' got its name from 'gana' i.e. 'counting'.

The Pound Sterling is a corrupt form of the Sanskrit term (पौंड्र स्तर्लिंग) 'Poundra Sterling'. In ancient Sanskrit tradition the term 'Poundra' signified a high calibre, or a high rating and standing as it appears in the Bhagawad Geeta. The term 'star' signifies 'level' and 'ling' was a termination implying the imprint of a Shivling or a mere 'sign'. Therefore, the Sanskrit meaning of the entire term 'Pound (alias Poundra) Sterling' was that it was a high-level, high denomination coin bearing the stamp of a Shivling or some other distinguishing sign as a mark of its sanctity, purity and authority.

The term Shilling is in fact a corrupt form of the Sanskrit term (शिवलिंग) Shivling. The name indicates that pre-Christian Britain had coins with the Shivling stamped on it. This is not inconceivable since Shiva worship did pervade the whole of Europe during pre-Christian times.

The other coin 'pence' is the Sanskrit word (पणस्) 'panas' signifying a kind of pice or paisa.

Dorothea Chaplin records that[1] "In ancient India silver and gold coins were called 'Nana' because they bore the emblems of that Goddess alone or with Mahadev.' Currently the word 'Nana' signifies 'coins.'"

Mark the currency of Deutschland (Germany) is named after Mark, a Vedic priest of the Daitya clan as pointed out earlier.

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(1) P.135, Matter, Myth and Spirit or Keltic and Hindu Links.

SANSKRIT NOMENCLATURE OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Because of the worldwide prevalence of Vedic culture and Sanskrit language, most of the weights, measures and instruments will be seen to have Sanskrit names.

The 'pound' is the Sanskrit term 'Poundra' which applied to anything of a high order, as explained a little more elaborately in the chapter dealing with currency.

The term 'Ounce' is the Sanskrit word (अंश) 'Ounsh' i.e. a specific part.

Terms like decagram, centigram etc. use the Sanskrit numerals (दश) 'deca' i.e. 10 and (शत) 'Sata' i.e. 100.

Those same terms joined to the Sanskrit word 'Kon' meaning 'angle' lead to words like pentagon, hexagon, octagon.

Physicians use the Stethoscope. Its first part 'Steth' is the Sanskrit world (स्थिती) 'Sthiti' meaning 'condition'. The latter part 'scope' is a reversed form of the Sanskrit word (पश्य) pasya' i.e. 'to see' or reckon. Thus the Sanskrit compound 'Stithi-pasya' i.e., the instrument for seeing or assessing the condition of the patient is called the 'Stethoscope'.

Words like 'bioscope', 'telescope' may be seen to be similar Sanskrit compounds. Likewise terms like spectacular and spectrum may be recognized as cognate terms.

Introspection is a Sanskrit compound of the word (अंतर्पश्यन्) antar-pasyan i.e. looking inside.

The word 'meter' is the Sanskrit word (मात्रा) 'matra' which represents a standard. In Sanskrit Vedic tradition the term 'matra' is used as a standard measure in music, poetry, medicine etc.

Metre is a measure used in textiles. Likewise the measuring gadgets for judging water or electricity consumed are also known as 'meters' from the Sanskrit word 'Matra' to measure.

In mathematics too one finds that term used in the term 'perimeter.'

The word 'perimeter' is Sanskrit pari-matra meaning measurement all around.

The terms thermometer and barometer also use the Sanskrit suffix 'matra' with its pronunciation slightly changed.

'Gharma' (घर्म) in Sanskrit signifies 'heat'. Therefore, the compound 'Gharma-matra' signifies 'a measure of heat.' That Sanskrit term (घर्ममात्रा) 'Gharma-matra' is being currently pronounced as 'thermometer.' The Sanskrit term (घर्मस्) 'gharmas' for heat has led to the modern term 'thermos'.

Likewise barometer is the compound of two Sanskrit words (भार-मात्रा) 'bhar-matra' i.e. 'measure of pressure'. The Sanskrit word (भारस्) 'bharas' is spelled in Latin as 'Barus', indicating how Latin is a modified form of Sanskrit.

The above brief review should convince everybody that all weights and measures throughout the ancient world bore Sanskrit names because Vedic culture pervaded the world.

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THE SANSKRIT NOMENCLATURE IN MODERN SCIENCES

It is usually believed that the 20th century of the Christian era is an age of unique scientific and technological achievements unknown earlier.

But what seems to be completely unknown is that the entire terminology we use even for our latest inventions and discoveries is from age-old Sanskrit.

The paradox of seemingly modern inventions taking on an ancient terminology could be explained in several ways. One very sound explanation is that since Sanskrit is the first and only language which divinity bestowed on human beings along with the Vedas, any terms coined for any discovery or invention are bound to be from within the ambit of Sanskrit.

Another explanation could be that the inventions we believe to have been made for the first time were known before and therefore, their terminology too existed in a latent form.

Whatever it be, it is a fact that the terminology of modern science and technology is rooted in Sanskrit.

Take the case of anti-biotics. Bio is a Greek corruption of the Sanskrit word 'jiv' meaning life. The Sanskrit term 'ent' signifies 'death' i.e. 'end' of life. Therefore, 'jivantak' is the Sanskrit term signifying a drug which kills jerms. That is used with the

last syllable first i.e. ent-jivtic alias antibiotics.

The several kinds of sprays to kill pests are known as 'cides' such as 'germicide' and 'pesticide'. That termination 'cide' is the Sanskrit term (छिद्) 'chhid' meaning 'slaughter' or 'kill'. Consequently, all modern terms such as germicide and insecticide, patricide, matricide and suicide are derived from Sanskrit. Whenever such new terms have to be coined they have to take recourse to Sanskrit inevitably because Sanskrit is the divine cast of human speech since the beginning of time.

Radio is the Sanskrit term (रव) Rava (meaning 'sound') and dyu (द्यु) signifying the 'sky'. Consequently, radio communication implies from its Sanskrit derivation a sound which travels through the skies (and not along wires).

The term television is the Sanskrit term tele-veekshan (तल-वीक्षण) i.e. seeing the very bottom, where the term 'bottom' alias 'tele' signifies the farthest distance.

The modern term 'sona' for 'sound' as in 'supersonic' or in 'ultra-sonic' derives from Sanskrit. In Sanskrit 'Sravan' (श्रवण) is 'hearing'.

The atom as the basic particle of matter is the Sanskrit word (आत्मा) 'atma' (i.e. soul) wrongly spelled. Atom is so called because it is the very soul of all matter.

The 'molecule' is a Sanskrit compound (मूल) 'mool' (i.e. basic) and (कुल) i. e. family. Therefore molecule alias मूल कणानां कुलम् signifies a family of fundamental particles.

As explained elsewhere also in this volume the term 'missile' is the Sanskrit word (मुसल) 'moosal'.

Sanskrit is not only a language with a systematic structure but even the concepts expressed through it by ancient Vedic sages and seers are very scientific. Take the term 'jagat' (meaning the 'cosmos'). It implies a system which is in a state of constant flux, where everything is changing every moment and nothing is

static. That is the etymological meaning of the term 'jagat' and that is also a scientific truth. Even a person's thoughts, his digestive system, the composition of his body etc. are changing every moment. One may draft a letter or a document and take a second look at it after some time and one will feel like changing it. This will continue ad infinitum. Similarly in nature the Sun, the moon, the stars, planets, the cloud-pattern, the weather, the wind and everything is in a state of constant change and movement. This profound truth of colossal dimensions is singularly and accurately expressed in the term 'jagat'. Thus every Sanskrit word is a complete, scientific definition of every thought and idea that it expresses. It is not a random word symbol arbitrarily associated with some random meaning as in other languages. This couldn't have been possible if Sanskrit were not a divine language. The pith of Sanskrit consists of root-letters with an inherent meaning attached to each one.

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THE SANSKRIT NOMENCLATURE OF MODERN EDUCATIONAL TEXTS

The prevalence of Vedic culture throughout the world from the beginning of time is also proved by the Sanskrit names of all branches of learning. Terms like physics, chemistry, mathematics, arithmetic and psychology can be explained only with reference to Sanskrit.

Take the word 'psychology'. This is usually explained on the basis of 'psyche' meaning the 'mind'. But why does 'psyche' signify the mind ? The basic Sanskrit word is (शोच) 'Socha', meaning 'thinking'. Hence a science dealing with the process of thinking is psychology. Its proper form would be (शोच-लग) socha-laga. The suffix 'laga' (alias logy) signifies 'connected with'.

Likewise, the suffix 'nomy' as in 'astronomy' signifies a science standing in the 'naam' (i.e. name) of 'stars'. The Sanskrit word 'taraka' alias 'tar' is wrongly spelled in English as 'star' and by the Muslims as sitara. The origin of the term 'mathematics' too has remained uninvestigated. The Sanskrit term math-mastiska (मथ+मस्तिष्क) signifies a branch of study which 'churns the mind'.

Arithmetic in Sanskrit is artha-maatica (अर्थमातिक) i.e. computation of monetary transactions.

Geometry is Jya-Matra (ज्या मात्रा) i.e. measurement of the earth.

Botany as a science concerning plants is from the term 'Buta'. In Ayurveda the term 'jadi-buti' signifying 'roots and plants' is often used. There the term 'buti' means a 'plant'.

The term trigonometry has a double Sanskrit significance. As (त्रिगुण मात्रा) tri-gono-matra it means 'three-dimensional measurement' while as (त्रिकोण-मात्रा) trikon-matra it would mean a triangular measurement.

The term 'physics' is from the Sanskrit term (पश्य) 'pashya' i.e. 'seeing' not only with one's eyes but with all the five senses. Anything which is cognizable by any of the five senses comes within the scope of physics.

Chemistry is explained as originating in alchemy, the ancient science of turning base metals into gold. The term alchemy is burdened with the dispensable Arabic prefix 'al'. Leaving that out one finds that the term 'chemy' is a truncated form of the Sanskrit term Hem-criya (हेम-क्रिया) i.e. 'chemically changing (a metal) into gold.'

The termination 'stry' in English, as in 'chemistry' and 'dentistry' is the garbled spelling of the Sanskrit term 'shastra' (शास्त्र) meaning science. The Sanskrit term Kimaya alias Chimaya-Shastra has led to the word chemistry.

The English term 'add' is an abbreviation of the Sanskrit term (अधिक) 'adhik'.

The term 'divide' is from the Sanskrit expression 'dwividhe' (द्विविध), i.e. to split.

The numerals one to 10 will also be found to be originating in Sanskrit. That is because Sanskrit was the sole medium of instruction worldwide for millions of years.

We have already pointed out elsewhere how geography, geology and calligraphy are Sanskrit terms.

Statistics is a Sanskrit compound made up of the two words 'Sthitis-Taksha, (स्थितिस्-तक्ष) i.e. size up a situation (with figures).

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THE UNIVERSAL VEDIC EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

One very important proof of Vedic culture and Sanskrit language having prevailed all over the world in pre-Christian times is found in the current educational terminology.

It often happens that the hard shell gets preserved while the kernel is lost. The same is the case with the Vedic system of education. Its terminological shell is still used by the world though its kernel, namely the study of Vedic Sanskrit scriptures has been long given up over a major part of the world because of historical upheavals.

The Primary Stage

Let us start our review from the primary stage. The Sanskrit word for the first primary standard is (प्रथम) **Prathama.** In European usage too the same term continues to be used with the middle letters 'th' dropped out leading to derivatives such as prime, primary and primeval.

Matriculation

The term 'matriculation' is, in the present state of poor historical knowledge a bugbear even for dictionary makers. We have already noted earlier the haphazard, hodge podge etymological explanations they churn out.

The seemingly European expression 'matriculation' is a remarkably well-preserved Sanskrit term. In original Sanskrit it is (मातृ-कुलेषु-न) matri-kuleshu-na' meaning that the pupil's education has reached a stage where he will have to saunter out for higher

studies which can no longer be carried out in the mother's home.

Intermediate

Matriculation is followed by the 'Intermediate' stage. That is the Sanskrit term (अंतर्मध्यस्थ) 'Antarmadhyastha' meaning a stage in between two other prominent academic points viz. Matriculation and Graduation.

Bachelor

Then follows the 'Bachelor' degree in arts, science, commerce, medicine, law, engineering, architecture etc. (as B.A., B.Sc., B.Com, M.B.B.S, LL.B, B.E. and B. Arch).

The present European system of education doesn't debar married persons from enrolling for studies. What is the justification then for conferring the Bachelor degree on a married person? Isn't it also a mockery and a travesty to certify a person to be a bachelor even though he may be married?

It may be that an overwhelming number of persons are unmarried when they study for the 'bachelor' course, but later in life when he or she gets married why shouldn't the university have provision to replace the earlier 'Bachelor' degree with a 'Married Person' degree in arts, science etc. as M.P.A., M.P.Sc, M.P.Com, M.P.E etc.?

Especially in the case of a woman the current 'Bachelor' degree is very bizarre and ludicrous because even the European dictionaries don't call a woman a bachelor, married or unmarried. In fact a person wanting to know the marital status of a woman would be laughed at if he asked her whether she is a bachelor? With what justification then is the Bachelor degree conferred on women by universities which are the highest centres of learning?

The secret lies in the fact that from the beginning of time the Vedic system of education prevailed all over the world. Under the Vedic system all boys were sent to the forest-hermitages of Vedic sages for a 12 to 20-year course of comprehensive knowledge

divided into 10 branches alias facets or disciplines. Those completing the course were known as Dasha-granthi scholars. It was only when he completed his education was the pupil allowed to return home. Bachelorhood for the entire duration of education was inevitable since the young pupils were away from their parents and were lodged in the Guru's forest-hermitage. There the students were all boys. Naturally when they returned home after completing their course they were 'Bachelors'. This was the second phase of their life. (The first was upto the age of 5 or 8 years spent as a toddler at home). It was only after completing the 'Bachelor' phase of education was the male considered eligible for marriage. And since everybody (whether Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya or Shudra) followed the same routine it is clear that each one of them received the kind of education necessary for the profession in which he proposed to spend his life. Thus the 'Bachelor' degree was inevitable under the Vedic system. If that same degree continues even today (despite the irrelevance of the marital status in contemporary European education) in Europe that is emphatic proof that the Vedic system of Sanskrit education prevailed throughout the ancient world. The Sanskrit word Brahmachari signifies a 'Bachelor.' On close examination the common consonants 'b-ch-r' in both the words indicate that the Sanskrit word Brahmachari is being mispronounced in English as Bachelor.

Female Education

Women were free to receive all education that they desired but they received tuition at home from learned family elders. The woman was in no way considered inferior. In fact she was considered very much superior than the mere male. She was accorded the status of the empress alias goddess of the home. Care was taken not to throw her into the hurly burly of outdoor-life where unscrupulous males could exploit her charm, delicacy, shame, honour etc. Women are regarded precious as gold and gems in Vedic culture. That is why her father, her husband and her sons have been saddled with the responsibility of looking after the woman in the different stages of her life.

The Master's Degree

The degree of Master of arts, science, commerce etc. is a Sanskrit Vedic expression too. The actual Sanskrit term is (महास्तर) Maha-stur i.e. of a high strata, one whose education has reached a state of high level competence.

The Doctorate

A doctor primarily signifies a medical man. Simultaneously a 'doctor' (of philosophy, of literature) i.e. a Ph.D. or D. Litt also signifies a man of the highest learning.

The two-fold significance of the doctoral degree also emanates from Vedic practice. In Sanskrit Vedic learning the term. 'Kavi' alias 'Kaviraj' had not only a double but a triple significance. Kavi meant a medical person. Kavi also signified a person of the highest learning. At the same time 'Kavi' also implied that the person's behaviour, nature and daily routine was of the highest standards, flawless and ideal. The European term 'doctor' too retains that same ancient Sanskrit, Vedic significance.

The term 'disciple' and 'student' too are Sanskrit. Let us analyse the term 'disciple'. There the letter 'c' is superfluous since even on eliminating it we still can pronounce the word as 'desiple'. But the 'c' is there on purpose because it is a Sanskrit term. The only thing to be noted is that 'c' has been misplaced. By re-writing the spelling as 'dic-si-ple' we may detect the original Sanskrit term (दीक्षापाल) 'deeksha-pal' i.e. one who abides by the lessons taught or learning imparted.

Likewise the term 'student' is a jumble of the Sanskrit term (स-तु-अध्ययन्तः) 'Sa-tu-adhyawantah' i.e. he who is engaged in his studies.

The term teacher is the Sanskrit word (नीतिचरः) nitichar i.e. one who trains pupils in the proper mode of living, learning, behaving etc. The initial Sanskrit letter (नी) 'ni' in the Sanskrit word 'nitichar' has dropped off, and what remains is the truncated word 'teacher' which is fancied to be English.

Gurukulum

All tuition to boys under the ancient Vedic system used to be conducted in hermitages of sages known as Rushees (also spelled as 'Rishis'). The teacher-disciple ratio there used to be about 1:5 or 7.

The term Rushee (alias Rishi) still exists in European parlance as pointed out elsewhere in this volume in terms such as Russia and Prussia (i.e.Pra-Rushia) signify the land of Rushees.

The household alias the teaching hermitage establishment of the Rushee, is known in Sanskrit as Gurukulum (गुरु कुलम्) i.e. Guru's family home. It is that same Sanskrit term which survives in modern educational terminology as 'Curriculum'. To understand why Gurukulam of Sanskrit vintage should be pronounced as 'Curriculum' in Europe, we may recall that the Sanskrit term (गौः) 'gow' is pronounced as (कौ) 'cow'. There one sees how Sanskrit 'g' is replaced by European 'c'. Consequentiy, 'gurukulum' continues to be spelled as 'curriculum'.

Syllabus

Similar is the case with the term 'Syllabus'. The original Sanskrit word is (शालाभ्यास:) 'Shalabhyas' where 'Shala' singifies a 'school' and 'abhyas' is 'course of study'. That is what 'syllabus' is.

In this context it may be noted that the English word 'school' is in fact the Sanskrit term (शाला) 'shala'. We shall now explain the divergence in the English spelling. In the English alphabet 's' has the same sound as 'c'. Therefore, let us rewrite the word 'school' as 'sshool'. It may also be noted that the Sanskrit 'a' is rounded in English pronunciation as 'o'. For example; the Sanskrit word 'rayal'; is spelled as 'royal' 'nasa' is pronounced as 'nose' and 'ga' as 'go'. Consequently, the Sanskrit word 'Shaala' alias 'Shaal' has come to be spelled in English as 'School'.

Likewise the term 'scholar' is in fact 'sshalar' i.e. one who is connected with a 'shaala' i.e. educational institution.

The city in Sweden known as Upsala is a fully Sanskrit term signifying a subordinate or supplementary 'shala' i.e. school.

Such a total Sanskrit, Vedic educational framework still existing in the Western world is emphatic proof of the Sanskrit, Vedic system of education having prevailed there from time immemorial.

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SANSKRIT EXPRESSIONS IN EUROPEAN USAGE

One very telling proof of Vedic culture and Sanskrit language having pervaded Europe in ancient times is the presence of Vedic expressions in European usage.

The commonly used term 'welcome' is a translation of the Sanskrit term 'Su-agatam' alias Swagatam स्वागतम् where 'Su' means 'well' and 'agatam' means 'come'. In fact even the term 'come' is the Sanskrit word 'agam', with the first Sanskrit letter 'a' dropped. The reamining Sanskrit term 'gam' is spelled as 'com' alias 'come' because Sanskrit 'g' is pronounced as 'k' in English as may be seen from the Sanskrit word 'gow' being pronounced as 'cow' in English.

'Soup' the first course of the European meal is a Sanskrit word signifying an 'extract'. Cooks who prepare food in the kitchen of the holy temple in Jagannathpuri in India are known as 'Supa-Kars' i.e. makers of soup.

The term 'coat' (alias Kot) in Sanskrit signifies the tall and stout defensive wall around a city. Since all cities in ancient times used to be protected by such a defensive wall, cities were usually named as Siddhakot, Akkalkot, Bagalkot, Lohakot, Rajkot and Amarkot. The same practice being in vogue in Europe there too cities and towns were known as Charlcote, Heathcote, Ascot, Northcote and Kingscote. The variations in spelling as cote, cot, coat or kot is misleading. These variations have been deliberately

wrought so that several meanings could be crammed in one pronunciation in an inadequate 26-letter Roman script. Yet readers must realize that all those seeming variations adhere to the basic Sanskrit word 'kot'.

The English term 'coat' as the thick apparel which goes round one's body is also the Sanskrit word 'kot' based on the analogy of the defensive city wall.

The term 'coat' of paint is also the same Sanskrit term 'Kot' signifying a defensive wall because the 'coat of paint' has a protective function too.

Another term 'court' as in 'royal court', 'tennis court, 'law-court' and 'courtyard' has its spelling burdened with an intruding 'r'. By elminating the letter 'r', the remaining word will be 'cout' alias 'Kot' again signifying a place enclosed with walls. Even in France the place known as Agincourt is the Sanskrit term Agnicot i.e. a place of fire worship. The French word chateau too is a variation of the Sanskrit term kot (कोट).

The English expression 'This is none of your business' is a literal translation of the Sanskrit usage (अव्यापारेषु व्यापार:) 'Avyapareshu vyaparah' signifying meddling with somebody else's 'business'. The Sanskrit term 'Vyapar' is business.

The common English expression 'Thank you' is a mangled abbreviation of the Sanskrit term 'Dhanyah Yuyam' (धन्याः यूयम्) There the Sanskrit word 'dhanya' is malpronounced as 'thank' and the pronoun 'you' is an abbreviation of the Sanskrit term 'Youyam'.

The Sanskrit expression 'Shree' alias 'Sri' has been distorted as Sir in English and 'Ser' in Italian. Likewise the term 'Mister' (Mr.) is the Sanskrit (महास्तर) 'Mahastara' an honorific signifying a person of a higher (than ordinary) level.

Blue the Divine Attribute

The English adjective 'blue' used to denote a higher, holy status

as in 'blue blood' or 'blue horse' and 'blue-eyed boy' is in imitation of the Vedic practice of associating that colour with things great and vast, holy and sacred as inspiring awe, love and respect. The corresponding Sanskrit usage is apparent from Neel Nag, Neel-Ganga and Neel-Saraswati. Even the complexion of divine incarnations like Rama and Krishna are described as 'Neel' (i.e. blue) as specially attractive, fresh, soothing, sacred and of a divine quality. The analogy is from the blue hue pervading the limitless skies and the boundless oceans.

Silly Cow

Even English terms of abuse derive from Sanskrit. During heavy traffic of speeding motor vehicles if a woman pedestrian suddenly crosses the road, an enraged motorist in London desperately pressing on his brakes, bringing his vehicle to a screeching halt mutters a curse under his breath 'You silly cow'. Even this curse is of Sanskrit vintage. In the (वनपर्व) Vanaparva chapter of the Mahabharat, Draupadi while recounting the insults heaped on her in the Kaurava court to (one of her five husbands) Arjun, complains to him that the Kauravas had abused her as 'a (silly) cow'. That same expression ''silly kine''is used also by Duryodhan and Dushshasan at the time of exiling the Pandavas. This should appear very strange since in Vedic tradition the cow is an highly honoured animal. Yet there it is for everybody to see. That indicates that despite the cow being an honoured animal branding a woman a 'helpless, silly cow' was also an expression of humiliation.

This though a very tiny clue it has a significant clinching value. It proves that the Mahabharat has been as revered an epic in the British Isles and other parts of the world as it has been in India. Just as a vital, tiny clue helps unravel a crime, similarly this little expression 'silly cow' indicates that the epics Ramayan and Mahabharat were as avidly studied, revered and recounted in the rest of the world as in India. Those two epics had set standards of conduct all over the world in pre-Christian times.

Another curse 'damn' (it) often used in English is the Sanskrit

term 'daman' (दमन) signifying 'supress (it)' alias 'crush' it.

Similarly the English expression 'condemn' is the Sanskrit term 'Sandaman' (सं दमन) which literally means 'complete, thorough suppression'.

The English expression 'be pleased' or 'pleased be' as in 'may it please your honour, to....' is also used in French with a slight variation. That expression 'pleased be' is the Sanskrit expression (प्रसीद भव) 'prasido bhava' where the letter 'r' has been malpronounced as 'l'.

Consequently the English terms 'plea' and 'plead' should be recognized to be broken bits of the term 'pleased' alias 'prasid' (प्रसीद).

'Hullo' the most common European exclamation which persons exchange on meeting each other or when accosting on the telephone is of hoary Sanskrit antiquity since in the famous Sanskrit play Shakuntalam, written by Kalidas over 2500 years ago, characters frequently accost each other with 'Hala' alias 'Hullo'.

The Sanskrit expressions (चिरायु and चिरंजीव) 'chirayu and 'chiranjeev' have their exact counterparts in English ('Long live'), French and other European languages.

The English exclamation 'Ahoy' is a local variation of the Sanskrit expression 'Aho' (अहो!)

Research along these lines would reveal many other identities which should not be dismissed as chance similarities.

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THE RAMAYANIC WAR

Sanskrit scriptures such as the Ramayan and the Bhagawad Geeta are being generally misunderstood, misconstrued and misused. Several shrewd and learned persons, taking undue advantage of the public reverence for those scriptures use those venerable volumes to make money and secure a doting following

The messgge of the Bhagwad Geeta is simple, short and straightforward. The Geeta demands from every person that he look upon his life as a noble, altruistic mission and devote himself to fulfil it unmindful of the consequences. Such single-minded devotion to a dutiful, altruistic life should be a person's goal and in striving for it one should not bother about pleasure or pain, success or failure, insult or praise etc.

The same is the case with the Ramayan. It is obviously an account of a great war of the million-year ancient Treta Yuga. That too is being misunderstood and misinterpreted.

Valmiki the Raconteur

Sage Valmiki's account of the Ramayanic war is the ancientmost that has come down to us. Yet there are some wrong notions in the public mind about that account too.

It is believed by numerous people that like an expert astrologer Valmiki foresaw the Ramayanic developments and wrote them down much in advance.

Later the events shaped themselves exactly as he had jotted

them down. Had that been so Valmiki would have been famous as an astrologer but he is not known as an astrologer.

Far from writing it in advance Valmiki wrote an account of the Ramayan after a considerable lapse of time.

In the introductory part of the Ramayan, Valmiki seeks Narad's advice about some eminent personality of the past whose account he may write. It was then that Narad suggested that Valmiki write an account of Lord Rama, known in the "three worlds" as the most brave, dedicated, noble and accomplished ruler. Therefore Valmiki wrote the Ramayan after considerable research of a past happening.

The Three Worlds

In the Ramayanic times one often hears of three worlds. Rama is known as the ruler of the three worlds, and also as the most handsome in all the three worlds. One also comes across mention of mutual visits by the eminent leaders of those worlds, by spacecraft.

In our own age though theoretically anyone may own an aircraft or travel by scheduled air services, yet only the high and mighty can afford it. All others have to limit themselves to earth-bound vehicles or even walk all the time. The same appears to be the situation during Ramayanic times. It may thus be noted that the Ramayan is a straight-forward account of usual happenings and has no reference to miracles. Consequently, the reference to the three worlds need not cause any surprise. It could be that in the Treta Yug (to which belongs the Ramayan) and in the Dwapar Yug (to which belongs the Mahabharat) people on our earth were on visiting terms with people on two other celestial bodies. But only the very mighty could command the resources required for such visits. Ramayanic references to the three worlds must not, therefore, be deemed to be mere poetic fantasy. The cosmos is so complex that it could very well contain many mysteries which it is difficult for man's tiny brain and limited experience to visualize.

Three Interpretations

A very insignificant minority regards the Ramayan as a spiritual

allegory and not the historical account of a war or a devotional scripture. For instance, these people say that the name Dasharath symbolizes the human body with the ten senses, since 'Dasha' means '10' and 'rath' is a chariot. Rama signifies the divine soul in the body. When Rama departs Dasharath dies i.e. when the soul leaves, the body is dead, and so on.

However ingenious that explanation, Valmiki has nowhere even hinted that the Ramayanic narrative is meant to be a subtle and abstruse spiritual allegory.

Ramayan Not A Miracle Story

The other very commonly and widely held view, especially among the Hindus, is that the Ramayan is the mystery and miracle story of a divine incarnation, a reading or recital of which ensures absolution from sin and leads to salvation. Because of this popular view, householders often arrange non-stop recitals of the Ramayan in one day or spread over several days before or after weddings in the family or as a periodic spiritual chore.

Ramayan an Account of a Military Campaign

But we shall now present the third view. In my opinion the Ramayan makes sense only as the story of a military campaign. It is the history of a war. Only when it is read as history all its mysteries or incongruities get cleared.

According to the Vedic calendar, over a million years have elapsed from the time of Rama. There is no reason to disbelieve it. Like the ebb and tide of the sea, human civilizations too have risen and fallen. Of them the Ramayanic civilization was one. It is not a mystic mythology.

Inconsistencies Explained

All Hindus regard Rama's family as ideal in which all members constituted a well-knit unit tenderly loving one another.

With that background Kaikeyi's sudden, unconventional demand that her son Bharat be declared the crown prince instead of the

elder son Rama, smacked of petty jealousy in an average household

Even for a common household, Kaikeyi's demand was wholly unjustified because the rule of primogeniture was inviolable.

No Stigma Attaches to Kaikeyi's Name

Despite her apparently obstinate insistence on banishing such a noble prince as Rama, Kaikeyi's name does not personify a cruel shrew in Vedic tradition. No stigma attaches to her name.

The Royal Preceptors Don't Intervene

The royal preceptors, Vashist and Vishwamitra too never even once chide the members of the Dasharath household to stop their internecine feud and let Rama be the crown prince. They keep scrupulously aloof. All that family-drama was, therefore, a mere make-believe performance.

Both the titles of the Ramayan too suggest that killing Ravana was the main theme of Rama's endeavours. The term Rama-Ayana signifies Rama's (military) manoeuvres.

The other title of the epic is (दशग्रीवस्य वधः) "Dasha-greevasya Wadhah i.e. slaying of the Ten-headed (Ravana).".

The title 'Ten-headed' for Ravan is not to be taken literally. It only signifies the great power he wielded and his ability to face the enemy coming from any of the 10 directions. Vedic expressions similarly speak of a talented person as eight-faceted or eight-dimensional.

The real Ramayanic domestic or, rather, court tussle was between King Dasharath on one side and his two sage-counsellors Vashist and Vishwamitra on the other.

The two royal preceptors were all along determined to train Rama and Lakshman as warriors so as to ultimately mount an all-out campaign to exterminate Ravan. Dasharath, contrarily, wanted the princes to stay in safety in the palace and not be exposed

to the risks and hardships of a gruelling campaign. That is why once when Vishwamitra came to ask for military contingents led by Rama and Lakshman, to safeguard his sacrificial rites menaced by the Rakshasas Dasharath offered to himself lead those commandos. But Vishwamitra insisted that he preferred the princes to Dasharath.

Dasharath, a Real Casualty

The result of that tussle was that when Rama was smuggled out of the palace (on the pretext of the family feud) Dasharath died of grief and shock at being ignored, overruled and deprived of his noble eldest son 's company.

The drama of a family feud was enacted to make it appear to the all-powerful Rakshasas that Rama was an helpless exile.

Kaikeyi-the Brave, Patriotic Queen

Kaikeyi was an amazonian and patriotic queen. Even earlier in her career she used to accompany her husband, Dasharath on military expeditions. In one such she had saved Dasharath 's life in the thick of the battle. A grateful Dasharath promised her two boons which she had politely refused to encash.

When Dasharath came to know of Vishwamitra and Vashista 's plans to organize a military expedition under Rama 's leadership against Ravan he prepared to foreclose their option by organizing a coronation ceremony to transfer all administrative power to Rama and declaring his own retirement.

When Manthara (the maid) informed her mistress, Kaikeyi, about the hushed and hasty preparations being made for Rama 's coronation by Dasharath, his patriotic queen, Kaikeyi (acting on the advice of Vashist and Vishwamitra) decided to act swiftly.

She immediately feigned great anger and disappointment and reminding Dasharath of the two boons, demanded that Rama be exiled for 14 long years and that Bharat be crowned king.

That this was being done at the behest of Vashist and Vishwamitra is apparent from the fact that though they wielded great supervisory

authority in the Dasharath household they raised no objection to Kaikeyi 's demands which seemed to flout all vedic traditions.

Rama 's departure from the palace at Ayodhya was thus made to appear as an unfortunate, unforeseen and unavoidable exile caused by a family feud so that Ravan 's Rakshas commandos may not obstruct and frustrate Rama 's movements.

Political and military moves are always made under a mantle of secrecy and under misleading pretexts.

Those who regard Rama with the highest reverence as a divine hero, too should not regard the above subterfuge derogatory to Rama 's honour as a divine personality.

In such cases the rule is that craft when employed to overcome a crafty enemy, gets ennobled. If the end is noble the means become noble. This may be illustrated from the great Shivaji 's career. To foil his enemies Shivaji made use of great stratagem, and subterfuge. Such ingenuity used to overcome a wily enemy by the righteous is regarded as divine. Similarly since Rama represented a noble cause all that he did to achieve his lofty objective must be regarded as noble.

Other Clues

There are some other clues too to indicate that Rama 's exile was a ruse. When Rama, Sita and Lakshman are transported in their royal chariot to the outskrits of the city, hundreds of residents of Ayodhya bewildered by these sudden, outward developments in the palace, trailed the chariot. Since Rama wanted to keep his direction and movements a secret he ordered his charioteer, Sumantra to give the trailing public a slip by feigning to drive back to the city by another route and later turn the chariot once again in the required direction away from the capital.

Later when Sumantra returns to the capital driving an empty chariot he covers his face with a shroud so that no one may identify him as the man who had transported the royal trio out of the capital.

Later still, when Rama, Sita and Lakshman cross the Ganga in a raft Lakshmana hides the raft under the bushes on the other bank so that the enemy may have no clue to their movements.

On the other side Rama is welcomed by an ally, Guha who had established an advance guerrilla staging-post from where to begin the 14-year long campaign against Ravan 's rampaging forces.

Even before planning Rama 's simulated banishment from the palace, Vashist and Vishwamitra had made other very far-sighted moves and preparations earlier, such as setting up a net-work of guerrilla posts.

Vishwamitra also used to escort Rama and Lakshman earlier on regular battle-exercises against Ravan 's ravaging detachments under Rakshas generals such as Mareech and Subahu.

Ravan 's raiders were such a menace that even the vicinity of Ayodhya had become unsafe. To combat an enemy of Ravan 's calibre, who was a terror to all the three worlds of those days, required careful long-term preparations and strong practice-exercises.

The frequent raids by Ravan 's detachments provided the required combat experience. During such engagements Vashist and Vishwamitra used to train Rama and Lakshman in combat, tactics, and diplomacy.

Abrupt Detour to Janak's Court

After one such combat engagement Vashist and Vishwamitra took the two princes Rama and Lakshman straight to Janak 's capital, Mithila. The ostensible reason was a get-together and Sita 's wedding. The apparent condition was that, whosoever could string an ancient bow in Janak 's possession would be entitled to marry Sita. Ravan, a very elderly man and a much married man was also there to seek the hand of teenager Sita. This was rather absurd. He is said to have tried to operate the bow but staggered under its weight. Therefore, he was the object of much ridicule by the entire gathering. Rama lifted the bow but as he tried to string it the bow

broke. Thus in a way, none of the suitors fulfilled the condition of stringing the bow. Despite such failure Rama was married to Sita, Lakshman to Urmila and the other brothers to other princesses of Janak 's household.

The Alliance with Janak

Vaishist and Vishwamitra who used to take Rama and Lakshman on combat exercises were not ordinarily expected to make a detour to Janak 's capital, Mithila and negotiate the marriages of the princes in the absence of the latter 's parents.

All this indicates that Vashist and Vishwamitra were in full control of the whole situation. The condition of stringing the bow was only a ruse. The main object was to strike an alliance for future war against Ravan. On the other side Ravan too, being apprehensive of the growing power of Rama, was angling to forge an alliance with Janak. But obviously Ravan failed. His failure to strike the much sought-after alliance made him a laughing stock. In the traditional stage-performances of the Ramayan, Ravan is depicted as stumbling under the staggering weight of the mighty bow. That must be taken to be a mere symbolic failure. His real failure lay in not securing Janak 's military alliance. Naturally this crucial and colossal failure after an air-dash from Lanka to Mithila evoked the derision and contempt of the contemporary world.

Contrarily Rama won the appreciation and admiration of the contemporary intelligentsia because under the expert guidance of Vashist and Vishwamitra, his alliance with Janaka was successfully negotiated.

It was at this stage that King Dasharath and his three wives were summoned from Ayodhya to Mithila. Apparently, they had no choice and no voice. Vashist and Vishwamitra were the prime movers or operators who had negotiated the marriages of the princes without waiting to obtain the parents consent.

To make the alliance strong and irrevocable all princes of the Dasharath household were married to princesses from the Janak

household. This indicates that age or compatibility etc. were not the main considerations. The focus was entirely on the importance of the military alliance. Apart from the defeats that Rama's forces used to inflict on Ravan's commandos Ravan suffered a major diplomatic reverse, in losing Janaka's alliance to his adversaries.

Having secured this alliance Vashist and Vishwamitra decided that it was time for Rama to leave the palace and set up headquarters in the forest to undertake a 14-year long campaign against Ravan.

Kaikeyi's Contrived Demand

In order that Ravan should not get an inkling of Rama's strategic moves Kaikeyi was asked to play the part of a shrew and demand Rama's ouster as a jealous foster mother.

It was secretly decided that during Rama's absence Bharat would deputize for him as an acting monarch alias regent alias caretaker ruler.

Kaikeyi played her assigned role well and Rama's ouster from the family, apparently due to an internecine feud was duly announced.

Rama did not want Sita to accompany him but she having insisted had to be 'accommodated'. Lakshman was of course indispensable as a warrior-companion and as an additional general who had received training in warfare along with Rama.

We have already seen how their departure-route was a closely guarded secret.

The other major helper was Guha. Besides, Vashist and Vishwamitra had made secret arrangements for a vast network of military intelligence, logistical support and reinforcements to be provided from time to time by sages such as Bharadwaj, Kapil, Atri and Agastya.

Soon after Rama had set up his guerrilla headquarters, Bharat left for the forest to meet Rama. The proclaimed objective was to entreat Rama to return to Ayodhya. But the main object was

to establish lines of communication and routes for logistical support. This is made explicit by Ramayanic descriptions of laying roads, constructing barracks and digging canals all along Bharat's route.

Bharat had to locate Rama's forest headquarters by means of some secret cues. That indicates the wartime secrecy being maintained about Rama's forest bunker.

After Bharat's meeting with Rama at the latter's forest-headquarters, Rama decided to change the site of his camp because the place was littered with tell-tale signs such as the dung-heaps of horses and elephants, lying around. Aerial reconnaissance and ground-scouts would have been able to spot-out Rama's headquarter from those signs. Therefore, Rama ordered an immediate shifting of the camp after Bharat's departure.

Ramayan Misconstrued

The above analysis will indicate that the usual popular view of Ramayana being the story of Sita's constancy to Rama, or of a sudden, unanticipated, sorrowful family-banishment leading accidentally to harassment by Rakshas raiders is not at all warranted by facts. Ramayana is first and foremost the history of Treta Yug politics of a time when the earth (and two other worlds) were terrorized by the demoniac regime of Ravan. At that juncture Rama gradually built up his strength to ultimately overcome Ravan and rid the three worlds of tyranny and terror. Because that titanic struggle was ahead Rama did not want Sita to accompany him. But Sita's adamance proved highly dangerous and costly as we shall see later.

Rama-Sita-Lakshman Single File

Ramayanic pictures depict Rama in the front followed by Sita with Lakshman marching behind her in single file.

If they were three solitary persons (as is usually presumed) they should have walked abreast with Sita walking in the middle.

The very fact that they are shown marching one behind the

other fully armed, indicates that they led military contingents. The front contingent was led by Rama. The middle contingent protected Sita and the treasure and other vulnerable valuables that Rama's forces carried. The rear was brought up by troops commanded by Lakshman.

The Panchawati Camp

By the time Rama, winning victory after victory against Ravan's contingent established his camp at Panchawati Ravan was scared and he thought it wise to send out feelers for a truce. With this aim in view he sent his counsellors, accompanied by his sister Shoorpanakha and a large contingent of the Rakshas army. They made a formal offer for a marital alliance. When Rama refused they approached Lakshman. The idea was to somehow forge a marital alliance with the Dasharath family so that Rama and Lakshman could be prevailed upon to call off the campaign. But Rama and Lakshman were determined to exterminate Ravan. Therefore, they were in no mood to consider the marital proposal. Enraged at the rebuff Ravan's party had no option but to continue the war. Consequently, Shoorpanakha's contingent launched a savage attack. In the battle that ensued Shoorpanakha was badly wounded. Her nose and ears got chopped off.

Thus reading the Ramayana as a story of the politics of the Treta Yug all its details become plausible. Contrarily, the traditional view of regarding the Ramayana as a Rama-Sita love tale or as a story of Rama's misfortunes arising from his banishment because of Kaikeyi's jealous proxy ambition and chance encounters with the Rakshasas involves numerous incongruities.

The Shoorpanakha episode is one of them. The traditional depiction that Shoorpanakha fell in love with Rama and offered herself in marriage is inconsistent with the situation. Firstly, Shoorpanakha had no previous association with Rama to develop any attraction for him. Moreover, had that been true she wouldn't have offered to marry Lakshman when Rama refused. Moreover under the Vedic system a marriageable girl never proposes marriage

herself. It is always her elders who negotiate the match for her. That is why we conclude that the offer of Shoorpankha's hand to Rama, and, on his refusal, the same offer to Lakshman was made from Ravan's side as a truce offer.

The traditional explanation that Rama and Lakshman enraged by the marriage-proposal cut off Shoorpanakha's ears and nose is also very unrealistic. Any man would be highly delighted and would feel highly elated, flattered and honoured if a princess of an all-powerful royal household proposes marriage. Such an endearing and tempting offer shouldn't in any case provoke a murderous assault on Shoorpanakha a mere woman. Shoorpanakha's wounds in fact resulted from the resumption of hostilities after the marital truce-offer was rejected.

Uncalled-For Emphasis on Rama's Monogamy

In this context the traditional emphasis that his constancy to Sita made Rama reject Shoorpanakha's proposal is again inconsistent with the royal traditions of those times. Rama's own father had three wives. Therefore, it was perfectly natural for Rama to take several consorts. If Rama took no other wife than Sita that could at best be regarded as his personal preference and not an overwhelming outstanding and unique virtue. When millions of men in the world make do with a single wife all their lives, the emphasis on Rama limiting himself to one wife is uncalled for. This may at best be regarded as a personal and private virtue. But from the point of view of statecraft Rama's having only one wife could well have proved a serious handicap. Ancient Vedic monarchs usually took more than one wife to ensure a male successor to the throne, also to have several sons who could serve as reliable generals and governors, and also to forge marital alliances with neighbouring potentates so that blood-relationship may dissuade them from invading a neighbour's realm for self-aggrandizement.

Rama rejected Shoorpanakha's proposal not because he couldn't afford to have another wife but because he was in no mood to compromise with Ravan. Rama's virtue lay not so much in single

marital bliss but in his uncompromising determination to exterminate Ravan. Rejecting the most tempting alliance in the single-minded pursuit of a dangerous and protracted campagin, is what makes Rama to be remembered as a great, idealist warrior. The number of wives-one, two or more was an insignificant matter. This may be illustrated from Shivaji's career. Shivaji had eight wives but that in no way lessens the reverence that people have for Shivaji.

Stress on Trivialities Unjustified

Traditional Hindu discourses on the Ramayan usually stress some such trivial traits such as Rama always telling the truth and his marrying only one wife. A monarch's reputation is never made of such trifles. The first and foremost quality which inspires awe and reverence for a monarch is his immense striking-power, namely his military strength. If the monarch uses that power in the cause of truth and justice and the welfare of the weak and defenceless, then people further regard the monarch as a divine incarnation.

As regards Rama's monogamy we have already discussed how in the context of regal requirements and standards of his time Rama's monogamy was not much of a virtue and was, infact, never intended to be a virtue.

Rama's Pledged Word

As regards Rama's reputation for adherence to truth it would be wrong to conceive of it merely as a school-boy virtue such as Washington boldly owning responsibility for hacking a tree in his father's garden with the axe given to him as a birthday-present. This is a trivial virtue. In Rama's military career his reputation to carry out his pledged word had a more weighty significance namely that in conducting his relentless 14-year-long titanic struggle against Ravan whenever Rama made a resolve to deliver an attack he never shirked or failed despite the risks and dangers involved. It is this aspect of being true to the pledged word which invests Rama's career with immense divine significance.

The Kidnap Plan

When Ravan's plans for a truce by offering his sister

Shoorpanakha's hand in marriage to Rama, failed, Ravan hatched a plan to kidnap Sita so that he could be in a bargaining-position and force Rama to stop his relentless campagin in return for the freedom of Sita.

Traditional narrations of the Ramayan fail to rationally explain all such developments. They seem to look upon these developments as freak dangers of Rama's forest-life arising from a domestic feud. If, however, these moves are looked upon as ingenious military manoeuvres in a bilateral war of attrition they become very meaningful. The traditional presumption that Rama intended to spend his unfortunate 14-year exile in peaceful anonymity and meditation in the forest is itself wrong. Had meditation in exile been Rama's motive he should have proceeded north to the Himalayas and not marched in the direction of Lanka.

In planning Sita's abduction Ravan had calculated that his plan could succeed only if Rama and Lakshman could be lured to leave the Panchavati camp. Therefore Ravan hit upon a clever plan.

He sent a contingent under his general, Mareech, ostensibly escorting a large part of his dazzling treasure. Under Ravan's order the contingent was to parade itself along Sita's sector of the camp in a manner in which the treasure appeared to be a tempting prize for capture. This is the significance of the episode of the deer with the golden fleece in the Ramayan. In Ramayanic terminology the term 'mriga' means not only a deer but also 'disguise' or 'delusive deception'

Sita being a novice in diplomacy and war-tactics she was easily taken-in by that deceptive plan. She insisted on Rama's contingent to go in pursuit and capture Ravan's treasure. Since Rama had received proper training he could judge that the 'treasure' move was a snare. In Rama's judgment, there was no destination to which Ravan's treasure could be transported in the direction in which it was heading at that juncture. He tried to convince Sita about it but she insisted and Rama had to leave in pursuit with his contingent.

As per plan Ravan 's forces kept on moving ahead with Rama's forces in hot pursuit. In the skirmishes between the rear of the Rakshas army and the vanguard of Rama 's forces many soldiers on either side were slain. Donning the uniform of a slain soldier from Rama 's army, a Rakshas soldier hurried to Panchawati to convey the deceptive message that being in great danger, Rama wanted Lakshman to rush his troops to Rama 's aid.

Since Lakshman was an experienced general and diplomat he disbelieved the message of Rama 's distress.

But here again Sita showed her adamance and immaturity in insisting that Lakshman leave post-haste with his contingent to Rama 's succour. To overcome Lakshman 's reluctance Sita roundly chided Lakshman. The latter, therefore, left against his own wishes. Yet while departing as an experienced general Lakshman had warned Sita not to step out of the camp.

Two-thirds of Rama 's army having thus left the Panchawati camp Sita was left with only 1/3rd. Ravan had calculated that his commandos could kidnap Sita provided she could be enticed out of her strongly-defended camp. Therefore, Ravan (or his representative) attired as a monk approached Sita and persuaded her to emerge out of the strongly-guarded camp. This was Sita's third inexperienced indiscretion in a row on that fateful day.

As soon as she stepped out Sita was pounced upon, lifted bodily and shoved into Ravan 's aircraft.

It was then that Sita realized her great folly. Her custody gave Ravan a strong bargaining-point. Messages were obviously conveyed to Rama that if he wanted his wife back safe and sound, he should call off the campaign against Ravan on the latter 's terms, or suffer the indignity and torment of his queen being held prisoner and hostage by the enemy with all the attendant risks to her limbs, life and honour.

Suspicions Against Sita

It was this triple adamance and folly on the part of Sita which

put Rama in a soup. All his prowess, reputation and carefully chalked out 14-year-long campaign against Ravan seemed all of a sudden to be reduced to nothing. It was this anger, this frustration which so hurt Rama and incensed him against Sita that throughout the rest of their lives Rama and Sita were never properly reconciled.

The traditional narration of the Ramayan explains away Rama 's subsequent coldness towards Sita and public aspersions on Sita 's conduct as arising from Sita 's detention by Ravan. But that is not a proper explanation. Sita's indiscretion on insisting on Rama's and Lakshmana 's departure with their contingents and walking into Ravan 's snare gave rise to suspicions about Sita 's loyalty to Rama and about her being privy to Ravan. So the charge or suspicion against Sita was not so much about marital infidelity as of either being an enemy-agent or of being dangerously obstinate and foolhardy. Whether she acted deliberately or from ignorance and inexperience the result was equally disastrous. Rama 's reputation as a war-leader had slumped because the enemy had succeeded in abducting his queen from his war-headquarters under Rama's very nose. That also raised the possibility of Ravan extracting from Sita all the secrets and details of Rama 's war-effort.

Sita's Wise Move

Only when Sita was shuffled into Ravan 's aircraft to be flown to Lanka did she realize the enormity of her folly.

Hereafter she acted wisely though it was too late then. She jettisoned her ornaments one-by-one so that the trail may indicate at least the direction in which she was being flown.

Actually, later some forest-dwellers did pick up those trinkets and from that trail informed Rama of the direction in which Ravan had carried away Sita.

Jatayu the Squadron - Leader

Rama 's ally Jatayu had maintained aerial reconnaissance in the area. He intercepted Ravan 's air-armada but was soon shot down. Before he died he gave Rama an account of the unequal aerial combat

and of his close look at the enemy-leader. This was the first time that Rama's forces had their close brush with Ravan. Earlier they had only encountered his generals. Jatayu's attempt to intercept Ravan's air-armada was tantamount to a small modern nation like Burma or Siam trying to intercept the air-force of a powerful modern country such as Russia or USA

Alliance with Sugreev

In preparation to launch an assault on Ravan's headquarters, Rama negotiated an alliance with Sugreev by helping him to kill his rival Vali and assume sovereignty of the Kishkindha kingdom.

Sugreev and Vali are traditionally misjudged to be monkeys. That was only combat terminology. It is usual to designate army contingents and aircrafts etc. as cubs, panthers, scouts, rangers, mosquitoes, rats, bears, wolves or monkeys. Likewise the so-called monkey-troopers of Sugreev were trained guerrillas and air-men. They wore tail-coats made of hide-like textiles as camouflage and protection in jungle-warfare. That is why they were designated as monkeys. In aerial-reconnaissance their tail-coats indeed made them look like monkeys.

Slaying Vali

Valmiki has recorded that Vali was shot dead by Rama from behind a tree. This is regarded by traditionalists as a slur on Rama's reputation as a fair and brave warrior. This exposes the ineptitude of the traditional version. Anyone with combat-experience should know that in the battle-zone sharp-shooters have invariably to take cover. In fact this little detail rather proves that Valmiki is reporting a true combat and that the Ramayan is not an imaginary tale. Therefore, this event does not in the least smudge Rama's reputation as a warrior.

The Pact with Sugreev

Rama's pact with Sugreev was a very matter-of-fact political alliance. Vali the de facto ruler had deprived Sugreev of his wife and realm. As the aggrieved party Sugreev badly needed Rama's

help because Rama had a ready, battle-trained army with a trail of glorious campaigns behind him. The internecine dispute in the rich, resourceful Kishkindha kingdom at the very time when Rama needed a new powerful ally was a rare opportunity. Vali was also a very strong ally of Ravan. The Kishkindha kingdom of Vali had a very large army and a very capable airforce. Killing Vali was meant to give Rama a double advantage. Firstly, Vali's death would mean loss of a powerful ally to Ravan. And Sugreev's installation as the ruler of the Kishkindha Kingdom was intended to secure valuable military and air-support for Rama's campaign against Ravan. It was therefore, that Vali was killed by Rama, and Sugreev was installed as the ruler of Kishkindha.

Here again there is a clearly distinguishable realistic touch of self-interest-politics which is yet one more indication that the Ramayan constitutes a historical account of a bygone-age.

Soon after Vali was slain and Sugreev was installed as the ruler of Kishkindha, the latter became indolent and unmindful of the promise he had made to promote Rama's campaign against Ravan.

When Rama realized that Sugreev did not intend to fulfil his promise he deputed Lakshman to approach Sugreev and threaten the latter that if he didn't carry out his promise to help he too could be slain like Vali. It was then that Sugreev felt compelled to actively help Rama's campaign. This episode figures among the Ramayanic paintings of ancient Italy.

After being installed king, Sugreev apparently wanted to remain neutral because under Vali the Kishkindha kingdom was an ally of Ravan. Now suddenly aligning the kingdom on the side of Ravan's enemy was an embarrassing proposition. Therefore, he kept dilly-dallying. But on receiving Rama's ultimatum Sugreev had willy nilly to keep his promise of military help in exterminating Ravan.

Aerial Reconnaissance

The alliance with Sugreev helped Rama in two ways, namely, he got on his side a large, trained guerrilla army which having

been an ally of Ravan knew all his secrets. Secondly, except for Jatayu 's small air squadron (which had already been smashed) Rama had no airforce. Heretofore Rama 's army had only been fighting Ravan 's contingents as they advanced against Rama 's positions. But now the initiative was clearly with Rama. He therefore, wished to locate Ravan 's own hideout and the place where Sita had been detained.

Sugreev 's forces having been Ravan 's allies under Vali they knew where Ravan 's Lanka was located.

But after Vali 's death and Rama 's dangerous advance Ravan had been frequently changing his hideouts from island to island in his Lanka territory. Therefore there was need to keep track of Ravan 's changing bunkers. This task was entrusted to Sugreev 's air-squadrons.

At this stage Valmiki 's narrative mentions how groups of aircraft took-off in different directions, on global and spatial reconnaissance. The figures given are in billions and trillions. Obviously there couldn 't be aircraft in such staggering astronomic numbers. There could be two explanations for this. One would be that those fantastic figures were meant to confuse and terrorize the enemy in case Rama's military messages got intercepted by the enemy. With the numbers of aircraft so grossly inflated the enemy would be hard-put to know the real strength of Rama 's airforce. The other explanation would be that in Ramayanic times if earthly humanity had communication with and political control of two other celestial orbs, any number of aircraft would be required to fly out in the limitless skies.

Identifiable Landmarks

That such flights used to be guided by gigantic signs etched on earth is apparent from an allusion to them in the Ramayan as well as the detection of such signs on earth. For instance, on a mountain top in Peru is a huge carved trident. Over some flat terrains of the earth are big, long runway-type markings too.

Burning of Lanka

Hanuman 's success in locating Ravan 's headquarters was also utilized by him in setting Lanka ablaze. This detail also proves that the Ramayanic war is a true happening of a bygone age, since like a far-sighted combatant Hanuman made his maiden flight to Lanka an occasion also to inflict the greatest damage on the enemy 's capital.

Bridge Construction

Valmiki 's account of the construction of a bridge from island to island across the straits to Lanka by Sugreev 's engineers is also very realistic. It brings to mind the modern implementation of a similar gigantic project. Workers are shown to be busy with survey instruments and plumb lines, and stones and timber being rushed to the site, stacked high in speeding vehicles.

One other very realistic detail mentioned in this connection is that the name 'Rama' was stamped on every brick, stone and log used in the construction of the bridge. Those devotionally inclined, who usually read or understand the Ramayana as a miracle-tale of a divine incarnation, cite the stamping of Rama 's name as a mark of extreme devotion to Rama of all the workers in the project and a magical device to make bricks float on water.

In our view the stamping of Rama 's name was an ordinary administrative detail. All property taken to the battle-front or in use anywhere else has to bear the stamp of the government to which it belongs. Therefore, since the campaign against Ravan was being conducted by Rama 's government it was but natural that all material used in the campaign be stamped with Rama 's name. This is a routine administrative detail which doesn 't have to be clothed in a misleading, mystic aura of divine devotion. That the divine magic of Rama's name made the bricks float on water is a sentimental absurdity. The foundation of a bridge must have firm ground support to facilitate military traffic across it.

It may be seen that the Ramayan is an account of a titanic

struggle between two powers that were at loggerheads with each other over a million years ago when the people on earth could travel to two other worlds too. Whether those two other orbs with human population have since drifted away to some other system or that they are where they were but we are out of touch with them due to a technological communication-gap, should be a matter for investigation.

The Last Alliance

Rama's last ally was Vibhishan, the brother of Ravan himself. Vibhishan had watched with consternation the trail of successes that Rama had blazed in the 13-year-long campaign. And now Rama was poised to cross the straits to Lanka. All feelers and offers for a compromise and truce had been successively spurned by Rama who was bent on killing Ravan. Vibhishan saw in this an opportunity to open secret negotiations with Rama that after Ravan's end the sovereignty of Lanka should be transferred to Vibhishan. To escape inevitable death in the eventual siege and sack of Lanka, Vibhishan left Lanka accompanied by several generals and contingents of Rakshas troops in an air-armada.

When they neared Rama's camp Vibhishan opened radio communications. Permission was sought to land in the vicinity of Rama's camp. Since it was dangerous to allow an enemy-landing, permission was refused. The next message was that the party from Lanka wished to negotiate. Thereupon it was conveyed to them that Rama was not interested in any negotiations. On that the Radio message from the Lankan party said that they were coming as friends. In response to that it was conveyed to them that no friendship was considered necessary or desirable at that penultimate stage. On that the Lankan party stated that they wished to make common cause with Rama and participate in the landing and assault on Lanka. That clinched the issue. Permission was granted for the defecting Rakshas air-armada to land.

The Lankan party was then cordoned off and closely guarded by Rama's troops. Hanuman was sent to gauge whether the party

from Lanka was sincere in its offer. After that was ascertained the Lankan party was integrated with Rama's army for the final assault on Ravan's stronghold.

Valmiki's account of these negotiations clearly bring out Rama's qualities of stern military leadership and acumen. The account also proves that air transportation of troops and wireless communication was commonplace during Ramayanic times.

Why is Rama Looked upon As a Divine Incarnation?

According to Vedic tradition when the current human epoch began almost 2000 million years ago all humans were of a near-divine quality. They were well-behaved, capable, hefty, strong, men of character, idealists and were handsome and long-lived. Naturally, therefore the calibre of people in bygone eras was better. Even among that generally high-standard individuals such as Rama and Krishna were outstanding. The quality of human capabilities and behaviour has steadily fallen with every passing era even as an individual who passes the prime of his youth becomes weaker and uglier.

Surrender and Forgiveness

The protection that Rama granted to Vibhishan because the latter surrendered, is often wrongly cited in Hindu warrior-tradition as an ideal to be emulated.

A long line of Hindu rulers, generals and even ordinary people have been mistakenly tutored by their mothers, religious preachers and other preceptors to be kind to the surrendered enemy or anyone begging for clemency. Therefore, we find a long line of Hindu politicians and potentates from Prithviraj to a Gandhi and Nehru repeatedly bestowing misplaced clemency on defeated enemies. Maratha generals too kept repeating that mistake umpteen times in their dealing with Haiderali, Tipu Sultan, Mohamad Bangash, Ahmadshah Abdali, the Nizam, the Mogul rulers etc.

It may be noted that Lord Rama, Lord Krishna and Shivaji never forgave the enemy. They made use of the enemy's difficulties

to vanquish him. Even the Manusmriti expressly enjoins one to slaughter an aggressor outright. Despite such a holy tradition it is surprising that Hindu rulers, generals and potentates have acted like soft milksops in dealing with demoniac enemies. Prithviraj, for instance, committed the folly of releasing Mohamad Ghori umpteen times. Ghori's repeated raids bled and weakened Prithviraj's military might. Ultimately when Prithviraj himself was taken prisoner he reminded Ghori of the clemency shown to the latter. But Mohammad Ghori replied that he was not a fool to let a Hindu enemy alive. Despite such bitter experience Hindu rulers, administrators and bureaucrats right upto our own age are exercising misplaced clemency in complete disregard of the divine directives and precedents of Rama, Krishna and the Manusmriti.

It is, therefore necessary to clarify here for the guidance of future Hindu, Vedic administrators and generals as to what constitutes 'surrender' and what entitles an enemy to clemency?

What is Real Surrender?

Even the meanest and fiercest criminals, vagrants or miscreants would always plead for clemency and ask to be let off when nabbed. To regard such appeals for mercy as the repentance of a fallen enemy and letting him off in Hindu magnanimity is not only a folly but amounts to criminal neglect of one's duty. An enemy when cornered will invariably plead for mercy. But when let off he returns with a better force and bitterer determination.

Therefore, what Hindus and Vedic administrators everywhere must remember is that the enemy must be deemed deserving of clemency only if he agrees to become a Hindu and promote Vedic culture. Prithviraj would have been justified in being merciful to Mohammad Ghori only if the latter had agreed to become a Hindu and lent his army to fight for Hindu causes and values; not otherwise. This is the lesson that emerges from Rama's treatment of Vibhishan. Only when Vibhishan agreed to fight on Rama's side in the assault on Lanka did Rama allow him to live. Contrarily Vali was slain only because he refused to lend help to Rama.

The Single Combat Fallacy

In depicting the Ramayan in paintings or enacting it on the screen or the stage, directors often commit a blunder. Instead of treating Rama, Lakshman, Vali, Sugreev, Ravan etc. as generals they depict them engaged in single combat i.e. Vali and Sugreev fighting each other, mace-in hand or Rama engaged in single-combat against Ravan. This is a very crude and primitive depiction. In history when one mentions Rana Pratap opposing Akbar, or Shivaji locked in battle against Aurangzeb or a Rommel fighting against Montgomery those names are merely symbolic of the opposing forces. It is their forces which fight against each other and not the mighty leaders themselves. Thus for instance, Shivaji and Aurangzeb never met face to face on the battle-field nor did Rommel and Montgomery. Consequently to depict Vali and Sugreev engage in single combat on the stage is a very immature way of understanding and interpreting the Ramayan.

Therefore, this chapter should help readers to understand how reading the Ramayan as a history of a bygone age, is very illuminating, interesting and instructive. On the other hand, reading the Ramayan as a sentimental, devotional tale or as a story of Rama and Sita's conjugal love for each other, or as the story of a freak, domestic dispute leading to chance encounters with fierce demons, as the world has been doing till now, reduces the Ramayan to an illogical fantasy only fit for gullible children.

Read intelligently with mature understanding the Ramayan turns out to be a narration of the political pulls of the Treta Yug. The Ramayanic era came to a close with the devastating Rama-Ravana war. Likewise, the Dwapar Yuga ended with the highly destructive Mahabharat war. The current Kali Yug is probably destined to end in a series of wars and mounting misery and disintegration of humanity through crime, misbehaviour, and living-patterns violating laws of nature.

Airforce Terminology

The reference to Jatayu's wings being clipped and he being

shot down by Ravan during the latter's aerial abduction of Sita is identical with the terminology we use in our own days. Cadets passing out of modern airforce academies are given a symbol of wings to be sewed to their tunic. An aircraft shot down amounts to the clipping of wings. Aircraft are referred to as 'birds' in wartime slang even today as in Ramayanic times. Therefore Ramayanic references to Jatayu as a bird must not be construed literally.

Vedic Topography

During their extensive reconnaissance all over the globe and space to locate Ravan's hideout the aircraft report flying over (Lohit Sagar) the Red Sea in the west and the Straits of Sunda in the east. These two are still a part of modern geography. That indicates how most of the geographical and topographical terms that we use today are of hoary Vedic antiquity.

Rama-Sita Estrangement

The day Sita committed the folly of insisting first that Rama go in pursuit to capture Ravan's tempting treasure, and later that Lakshman also go to his help with more troops, and later still sauntering out of the security of her camp and getting kidnapped by Ravan, caused such a shock and gash in Rama's mind that from that moment onwards he nurtured a deep dislike for her. His whole reputation as a relentless, uncompromising master-general and super-hero was almost on the point of being totally eclipsed. But for the very timely alliance with Sugreev and godly help of Sugreev's superior guerrilla troops and airforce Rama would have had to patch up a dishonourable peace by begging Ravan to release Sita so that both could return to Ayodhya agreeing never again to wage another war.

Valmiki has clearly recorded that Rama was more concerned about his reputation as a general, successful war-hero and a slayer of Ravan. Conjugal love for Sita was in his view a hindrance to his war-effort and, therefore, he didn't want Sita to accompany him on the protracted campaign in the first instance.

Having suffered her to come because of Sita's adamance, Rama found to his chagrin that Sita had been guilty of a triple-indiscretion in the Panchavati camp, which threatened to end the entire campaign in a total disaster of great ignominy and shame.

Consequently, even after slaying Ravan, Rama was neither eager nor enthusiastic to meet Sita. When mediators suggested a reunion and reconciliation Rama dryly replied that if Sita wished she could call on him. On Sita's part she stood in trepidation of calling on Rama. She was fully conscious of the great folly she had committed out of her ignorant, immature and inexperienced adamance in matters concerning war-tactics and high diplomacy. Therefore, she sent out feelers to find out whether she would be forgiven by Rama. These details faithfully recorded by Valmiki clearly indicate that Ramayan is real history.

Traditional narrations of the Ramayan however, completely gloss over these events and continue to sing of mutual Rama-Sita love and reunion in raptures. In fact, for the rest of her life, the odium of having almost negatived Rama's great campaign, continued to so thoroughly haunt Sita that Sita's later life was a perpetual torment. People of Ayodhya kept referring to it in whispers. It was that adverse talk of the town which made Rama direct Lakshman to escort her to the forest where she may lead a life of solitary repentance for having meddled in ponderous affairs of state with which she had no concern.

Rama's Flight Back Home

Like a true victor Rama flew back to Ayodhya in the slain enemy Ravan's own posh, royal aircraft, the Pushpak. That belonged to Rama as captured war property. Sugreev could have offered a lift in his aircraft but that wouldn't have been as honourable as returning in the slain adversary's captured aircraft in which Ravan had earlier abducted Sita.

Thus, every detail of the Ramayan should make a true Hindu proud and serve as a proper lesson in bravery, courage, diplomacy, dignity and waging an uncompromising fight against the enemies

of Hindudom and Vedic culture.

Rama 's aerial flight back to Ayodhya is not an imaginary account. The aerial view of things on earth as described in the Ramayan reveals first-hand experience of flying.

Rama agreeing to a formal reunion with Sita and a return to his capital with her was just to keep up appearances before the public. After all as his wife and queen whose freedom had been won by the slaying of Ravan she was entitled to return to her family. But once back Rama could not regard her role in the campaign against Ravan with equanimity. The public in the kingdom also was highly critical of Sita 's role. Thus both in the royal family and in the public Sita 's role continued to cause adverse criticism. Consequently Rama had to suggest that she retire to the forest, away from the royal household and from affairs of state. Rama is clearly on record stating emphatically that he considered his royal role as of supreme importance and domestic life as of negligible value.

We thus come to the end of the Ramayanic story. Many other details of the Ramayan may perhaps need rationalization in the manner in which matters have been explained above. But the readers would perhaps themselves be able to understand them in a logical perspective hereafter in the context of the exposition delineated above.

But the current trend of allowing Rama 's story to be monopolized by religious preachers for spiritual discourses needs to be severely curbed. The Ramayan needs to be preached as the down-to-earth story of a hero whose courage and relentless pursuit of the enemy should be sung in ballads to inspire our armed-forces personnel while the principles of Ramrajya should be impressed on all bureaucrats, and military campaigners to be followed as models.

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THE RAMAYAN IN ANCIENT ASIA

As the saga of a divine figure the Ramayan epic survives in India in a fairly complete and perhaps unadulterated form because Hinduism survives in India.

But elsewhere in the world wherever Hinduism has winced, wilted and withered under Buddhist, Christian or Muslim assaults, the Ramayan got battered and tattered.

Yet such has been the durability of that great divine history that it still can be traced tenaciously surviving in tit-bits all the world over. In a separate chapter we have pointed out how the Ramayan may be traced even in the folk-lore and literature of European countries. Yet the details given in this volume may be treated as mere clues. Persons with greater time, resources and facilities at their disposal should undertake a more thorough search for remnants of these great Vedic epics in countries like Spain, France, Italy and Greece where a thick crust of Christianity hides massive evidence of earlier Vedic culture.

Mongolian Ramayan

Towards the end of the chapter on surviving European versions of the Ramayan we have mentioned a Russian volume which has compiled several Mongolian versions of the Ramayan along with some of the versions surviving in the Russian Kalmyk Republic.

The Chinese Ramayan

Kang-Seng-hui of China rendered the Jataka form of the Ramayan

in 251 A.D. A Chinese translation of a Sanskrit text by Kekaya describing the death of Dasharath (stricken with grief at the departure of Rama) appeared in 472 A.D.

The Ceylonese Ramayan

Dr. Lokesh Chandra, director of the Inernational Academy of Indian Culture (J-22 Hauz Khas, New Delhi) has published a paper titled **Ramayan, the Epic of Asia.** What we would like to suggest as an amendment to that title is that the Ramayan and Mahabharat have been world epics and not of Asia alone because Vedic culture permeated the whole world. Even so the information that he has compiled of the various versions of the Ramayan in Asian countries so far as known is as under: "A long tradition in narrative and dramatic form created the great episodic cycle of the 16th century classic Chinese novel known as **'Monkey'** or the Hsi-Yii-chi which amalgamated among other elements the extensive travels of Hanuman in quest of Sita. This motif enriched popular culture and folklore and also contributed to the development of Chinese secular literature.

"In the sixth century the Sinhalese poet King Kumardasa identified with Kumardhatusen (who reigned around 517 A.D.) composed the Janaki-harana, the earliest known Sanskrit work of Ceylon. Its verbatim Sinhalese paraphrase was done in the 12th century by an anonymous writer. It has been eulogised in several Sinhalese works. In our times the Sinhalese translation of the Ramayan by C.Don Bastean has been a decisive influence on the Sinhalese novel. Modern dramatists like John D 'Silva...have adapted the Ramayan. The popular appeal in Ceylon has been the ideal of the Ramayan in general and particularly even the virtues of Sita have been extolled, as in Indonesia.

The Cambodian Ramayan

"In the seventh century Cambodian, Khmer citations attest that the Ramayan had become a major and favourite epic. Its episodes symbolized great historic events in sculptured monuments. That the Khmers had been impregnated with the Ramayan is evident from the fact that a name or a scene were sufficient to characterize

a historic episode or to endow a social-ethical problem with moral authority and special emotion. The depiction of the historic exploits of Jayavarman VII against the Chams, on the exterior gallery of the Bayon, often follows the plot of the Ramayan, and the Khmer king was a new Rama to crush the king of Chams. Since Jayavarman VII the Ramayan became an integral part of Khmer life, played at fetes, figured on frescoes, and told by story-tellers. It is in fact the loveliest poetic expression of the soul of the Khmer people......The text followed at Angkor is closer to that of Java than to Valmiki."

The Indonesian Ramayan

"The Indonesians are as devoutly attached to the Ramayan as the Hindus in India. This was indicated by their hosting the first modern international Ramayanic festival a few years back.

According to an inscription as interpreted by De Casparis the Ramayan was carved in the ninth century on Prambanan's Chandi Loro Jongrong, the Temple of the Slender Maiden. That differs from the classical Indonesian epic **Ramayan Kakawin,** indicating that Indonesia had several versions of the Ramayan. The Ramayan reliefs at Panataran are in local style. Only those scenes are depicted in which Hanuman and his simian army have a role.

Ramayan in Laos

"In Laos, Phra Chao Anurut (King Aniruddha) constructed Vat Mai 'New Pagoda' over the Vat Si Phum. On its pylon are carved episodes from the Ramayan. The Vat Pa keo shrine in Laos is also decorated with Ramayanic paintings. The Ramayan forms a prominent and popular theme of ballet in Laos. The Natya Shala alias Ballet School of Vientianne trains its pupils regularly in Ramayanic ballet. When princess Dala (i.e.Tara), daughter of King Savang Vatthana was married, a few years back, the Ramayan ballet was staged in full regalia at Luang Prabang. A complete manuscript of the Laotian Ramayan comprising 40 bundles of 20 leaves, each is preserved in Vat Pra Keo. Another manuscript of it is in the Vat Sisket shrine. Lafont has published summaries

of the Pa' Lak Pa' LAM (i.e. Dear Lakshman and Dear Rama) and another version titled P' Ommachak (i.e.Brahmachakra)

The Ramayan in Siam

"The Ramkien (i.e. Rama-aakhyan) alias Ramakirti (i.e. the glory of Rama) is known to the Thai alias Siamese people as a masked play i.e. Khon, or as a shadow play (i.e.Nang) and as a literary composition. Their monarchs, Rama I and Rama II themselves have written versions of the Ramayan. The Silpakon (i. e. Shilpadhikaran) alias the Royal Fine Arts Faculty of Bangkok often uses those versions for stage-shows on special occasions. King Rama VI wrote his own version of the Ramayan based on the original Valmiki's Ramayan. A Thai scholar, Dhaninivat has based his Ramayanic work on the Indonesian 'Ramakien' of the time of the Srivijaya Hindu empire in Java. The Nang or shadow-play with figures made from hides is mentioned in the Palatine Law of King Boromatrailokanath (i. e. ब्रह्म त्रिलोकनाथ) enacted in 1458 A.D.

The Ramayan in Malaysia

"The Malaysian Hikayat Seri Rama (A.D.1400-1500) has been a basis for the repertoire of Malay shadow-plays, the Wayang Siam and Wayang Java. The popularity of the Ramayan among the Malay people is represented by a variety of local literary versions. The Malaysian Dalang even perform 200 to 300 shows a year. The performances are undertaken with due devotion. They are begun after a ritual offering and invocations as has been the Vedic tradition everywhere in ancient times. In Malaysia the rank of admiral is known as Lakshman after Rama's war-time deputy and younger brother.

The Ramayan in Burma

"The Burmese ruler Kyanzittha (A.D. 1084-1112) styled himself the descendant of Rama in the universal Vedic tradition. The stage-show of Yama-Pwe (Yama is Rama) was introduced in Burma in 1767 after the Burmese captured Siam. The performance of Yama-Pwe (a kind of Rama Leela) was spread over as many as 21 nights.

"The Ramayan is known to exist in other Asian countries too. In the grottoes of Tun-Huang are two Ramayanic manuscripts of the 7th to 9th centuries. There is also a poetical version of the early 15th century, the Zhang-Zhungpa Chowang-drakpaipal, a lost translation of Taranatha and a number of other versions scattered in commentaries on works in poetics and didactics such as the Kavyadarsa and Subhashita Ratna-Nidhi.

The Ramayan in Nepal

"Nepal has the oldest manuscript of Valmiki's Ramayan dating to 1075 A.D."

The Ramayan in the Philippines

Dr. Lokeshchandra observes in his paper on the Ramayan "In the backyards of the collective unconscious of the Philippines are repeated resonances of the epic of Rama. In 1968 professor Juan R. Francisco discovered among the Muslim Maranio a miniature version of Ramayan as an avatar of the remote literature of pre-Islamic Philippines. Among other Muslim tribes of the Philippines such as the Magindanao and the Sulu folk, recitations of this great epic survive in diluted versions."

In fact the term Magindanao is Sanskrit Mahadanav meaning the Great Danav community of which Ravan was a prominent ruler.

Ramayan is a very important and integral part of Hindu culture as the latter is known today.

But Hinduism is only a modern synonym of Vedic culture which pervaded all regions of the world in pre-Islamic and pre-Christian times. Therefore the story of Ramayan was known, studied, revered and recited with great devotion and attention all over the ancient world.

If only scholars who study and scrutinize the history of lands swept by Islam and Christianity take pains to investigate the pre-Islamic and pre-Christian history of those lands they are bound to discover evidence of the earlier Vedic culture which prevailed

there.

A specific instance is that of a Muslim community in a Christianized country viz the Philippines carefully preserving and routinely enacting the Ramayan as a venerated cultural heritage of their unknown and forgotten Vedic past.

In the South Central Philippines is an ethnic group known as Maranaws who fancy themselves to be Muslims eversince they were forced to turn Muslim by Arab invaders about 500 year ago.

They inhabit the western parts of the volcanic highlands of Mindanao and form about two to three percent of the Philippine population. Prior to conversion the Maranaws were orthodox Sanatanis. That is why on conversion Maranaws transferred their Vedic orthodoxy to Islam and became orthodox Muslims. Yet they continue to hold to their precious devotion to the Ramayan.

It was professor Francisco who discovered the Ramayan among the Maranaws almost by chance when he toured the lake area around which the Maranaws live, as a part of his research.

There one day at a community gathering in a village he heard a group narrating a story titled 'Maharida Lawana' i.e. Maharaja Ravan.

The script of the story is written in Jawi (modified Arabic) in Maranaw language. That is emphatic evidence of the Ramayan having been studied, revered and recited even in the Philippines, which is currently a predominantly Christian country.

Since conversion to Islam the Maranaws look upon the Ramayan as an hereditary folk tale that has come down in their tradition. Its oral narration accompanined by music, as is the custom in many Indian villages too, takes three to four hours. In India such performance is known as Ramleela.

The Maranaw text begins with king Lawana (i.e. Ravan) praying to Allah, and Jabrial the angel conveying Ravana's great devotion to Allah.

Incidentally 'Allah' is a Sanskrit name of the Mother Goddess. Maranaw language itself retains numerous Sanskrit words. Prof. Francisco has listed over 120. This is further evidence of Sanskrit being the mother of all languages. Some of those easily recognizable words are Karma, Dharma, Swarga, Naraka etc. But they are used in the context of Islam. For example, fasting, which is 'upavas' in Sanskrit is substitued by the word Ramadan (alias Ramazan). That too, in fact, is the Sanskrit word Ramadhyan i.e. Meditating on Lord Rama.

Like the Maranaws most Southeast Asian countries too refer to the Ramayan as Maharida Lawan i.e. (the story of) Maharaja Ravana. Yet Rama represents rightiousness while Ravan stands for the evil.

In nearby Malaysia the title is Hikayat Maharaja Ravana.

The narration begins with Seeta Swayamvara. But her name is mentioned as Mailaila Ganding while Rama is named Mangandiri. The other three parts of the story pertain to the abduction of Seeta, the search for her and the trumphant return to Ayodhya mentioned as Pulu Agama Niyog. Ravana's capital Lanka is referred to as Pulu Bandiarmasir. The royal characters are referred to as Sultans. Instead of the contest for stringing the bow a game called 'Sippa' is played by the suitors and the one who kicks the rattan ball to the apartment above the princess's abode wins her.

Lakshmana assumes a very different role in the Philippine version. He is depicted as the monkey son of Rama and Seeta. As per the Malaysian version Rama and Seeta took a bath in a river during their exile, which turned them into monkeys. Lakshmana was born to them thereafter. Lakshmana is also then Hanuman, Vali and Sugreav in turns. He becomes a human being after return from exile.

Ramayan in China

A distorted version of the Ramayan is enacted as a dance drama in China. It presumes that in remote antiquity there were 10 Suns (alias Demons) scorching the earth. The archer-hero Hou Yi shot

down nine. This feat won him great public renown and the spontaneous love of a damsel Chang Yi (i. e. Seeta). But a Villain (i. e. Ravan) Pang Meng transforming himself into a handsome youth pretended to sleep with the heroine whom he had drugged. Thereupon the divine hero Hou Yi feeling betrayed banished his wife Chang yi. The wronged and sorrowing heroine Chang yi swallowed a magical potion and flew to the Moon. On realizing that he had been tricked the hero Hou YI proceeds to search for his exiled wife. But on the way he is ambushed by the villain Pang Meng. In the ensuing fight Hou Yi the hero kills the villain Pang Meng. This is perhaps one of the many distortions of the Ramayan surviving in China. It is titled as the fairy tale of Hou Yi shooting down nine suns and Chang Yi flying to the Moon. In the Indian Version Seeta is engulfed by Mother Earth.

Hou Yi (i.e. Rama) shooting down the 9 Suns (i.e. demons)

Hou Yi (i.e. Rama) and Chang E (Sita) happy on being married

E (Sita) disappearing in the Moon while Hou Yi (Rama) looks on distraught. In the Indian version Sita disappears in the Earth

The Ramayan in Iran

An east-Iranian version of the Ramayan is also available though the main Iranian version has been buried in oblivion eversince Iran was converted to Islam. That east-Iranian version is in Khotanese language. That was an Iranian dialect prevalent in Khotan in Central Asia.

The dates of the various versions of the Ramayan mentioned above, such as the 7th or 9th or 11th century should only be taken to mean that those are the versions which we have been able to locate. Actually the Ramayan being a million-year ancient history of the Treta Yug, it has thrilled people all over the world for all those million years but since records get destroyed, the versions or manuscripts available to us are of comparatively recent dates. Since in ancient time texts were copied in hand from generation to generation, the copies that come to our hand must be deemed to belong ultimately to the very remote past.

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THE RAMAYAN IN ANCIENT EUROPE

Till now it has been presumed by modern scholars that the Ramayan is only an Indian, Hindu epic. That is just not true. The Ramayan was sung, studied and revered in ancient Europe too in much the same way as it is reverently quoted and recited in India.

The popularity of the Ramayan in the entire ancient world, whether of the East or West is yet one more proof that the Vedic civilization has been a world heritage.

Richard is Ramchandra

The name Rama alias Ramchandra came to be corrupted in European Christian tradition, as 'Richard' while Rama's epic struggle against the all-powerful Ravan, earned him the title 'Lion-hearted'.

Stifled Vedic Culture

After the propagation of Christianity the proselytizing zeal of Christian missionaries managed to scuttle and destroy the surviving French version and other regional versions of the Ramayan epic that were in vogue in pre-Christian Europe.

Another subtle way in which the Ramayana was stifled during the Christian era was by mixing it up with legends about the 12th century British monarch, Richard the Lion-hearted who took part in the Crusades.

The European name Richard is, therefore, in fact, a corruption

of the Sanskrit, Vedic name Ramchandra alias Rama. Consequently the name of the British monarch Richard the Lion-hearted is, in fact a recast of the earlier Sanskrit name Ramchandra the Lion-hearted.

Adulteration

Taking advantage of the identity and the legendary character of the two names Christian missionaries gradually substituted more and more Crusadic stories for the Ramayanic episodes. That is how a proselytized Europe was made to forget and lose track of their Sanskrit Ramayan.

But as criminologists say "there is no perfect crime". Consequently the Christian strangulation of the Ramayan and other aspects of Vedic tradition in European life has left distinct traces.

Christian Intransigence

The blame for stamping-out that ancient Vedic tradition must attach only to early Christian proselytizers who turned Europe Christian over a period of a thousand years beginning with the 4th century A.D.

But modern Christian scholarship must also certainly take the blame for closing its eyes in somnolent insensitivity to the heaps of evidence lying under its very nose and feet, about the Vedic character of pre-Christian Europe.

Christianity Discourages Research in Ancient History

The Ramayan presents a graphic example of how Western scholastic acumen is befuddled by its allegiance to Christianity. Because of that it refuses to look into anything of pre-Christian origin. Europeans brand and bundle-up the entire history of pre-Christian times with one contemptible term 'heathen' and consign it to the waste-paper basket of perpetual oblivion. For them, virtually no notice need be taken of the world before Christ.

Islam too Frowns on Research in Ancient History

The same holds true for the attitude of the average Muslim

academician too. He writes off all pre-Mahomad history as that of Kafirs and, therefore, unworthy of any mention or study.

This indicates how allegiance to Christianity or Communism or Islam, blots out all research acumen.

A graphic instance of this fact is that in regions of the world which are now overwhelmingly Muslim or Christian the record of the terror, torture and tyranny with which whole regions were turned Muslim or Christian have been completely wiped out. None ever talks or writes about them.

It is this failing or flaw in the make-up of the Muslim, Communist or Christian mind which makes them completely overlook the hundreds of paintings of Ramayanic episodes on display in Italian museums and the several versions of the Ramayan still available (in a garbled form though) in European libraries. As an illustration I am mentioning hereunder .one version of the Ramayan which came to my hands after a tortuous and frantic search in distant Europe, through several contacts, from my scholastic perch in India.

The European Ramayan

The title page of that edition is being reproduced below:-

RICHARD COEUR DE LION IN LITERATURE
INAUGURAL DISSERTATION
DER
HOHEN PHILOSOPHISCHEN FAKULTAT
DER

UNIVERSITAT LEIPZIG
ZUR
ERLANGUNG DER DOCTORWURDE
VORGELEGT VON
GEORG HENRY NEEDLER

LEIPZIG
GUSTAVE FOCK
1890

Its contents are as under :-

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Footnote - The name Caius College (5-a abovee is obviously 'Saius' i.e. 'of Lord Shiv'. Balliol College, Oxford, is named after Ballal i.e. Lord Ganesh. Thus ancient seats of learning in Britain are dedicated to Vedic deities.

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The above-mentioned volume is a doctoral thesis in English submitted to the Faculty of Higher Philosophy of Leipzig University in East Germany.

Published in 1890 it is obviously a compilation and study of the various European versions of the story of Richard the Lion-hearted.

Through a friend's friend I could obtain (after frantic requests to several persons over a number of years) a xerox copy only of pages 7 to 55 and 80 to 95 besides 15 other sheets which are the front-pages of the several chapters in that compilation.

Pages 80 to 95, referred to above, are especially important because they reveal in some detail how the literary debris of the destruction wrought by a rampant Christianity in Europe for over a thousand years still retain traces of the Ramayan that was prevalent in Europe in pre-Christian times.

But apart from those pages Ramayanic episodes are scattered in tit-bits in several other versions included in that compilation.

Ignorance of Christian Scholars

However it needs to be noted that neither the doctoral candidate, George Henry Needler nor his mentors of the Leipzig University betray the slightest awareness that they had in their hands the ruins of the ancient Ramayan legend as it was in vogue in mediaeval Europe. That is a graphic instance of how Christianity has succeeded in doping the academic world into forgetting and writing off the entire multi-million-year-stretch of the pre-Christian Vedic past of Europe.

Original French Version Destroyed

A footnote on page 24 of the doctoral thesis, observes 'That the groundwork of the romance of Richard Coeur de Lion was originally French is evident from the words of the English translator himself in numerous places. For instance, in the introduction to the poem we read (Weber II, 21-24).

"In Frensshe bookys this rym is wrought."

The footnote adds "That the English version grew in time to be much larger than the original French is also easily seen (1) from the lack of harmony in the different parts of the whole poem.... (2) from the absence of any reference whatever to a French original in large sections of the poem....and (3) from the style of certain

sections of the poem, which have an unmistakably English flavour....Though a French poem on Richard Coeur de Lion formed the ground-work of a corresponding English poem, this latter, even if at first a faithful reproduction of the French poem has afterwards received in English large additions which have no counterpart in the original French form....."

The English version is more liberally adulterated than other European versions of the Ramayan, because the crusader Richard was a British monarch. Other Europeans didn't have a similar namesake handle to adulterate the Ramayan with.

French Persecution

Here a pertinent question arises. Why is the French version totally untraceable when a number of English versions, though highly adulterated, are available. An adulterated, truncated German version also exists. Why is then the French version totally missing ? Needler does not seem to have discussed this question. That such an investigation should not suggest itself to European scholars indicates a major fault in current research methodology, which slurs over many such vital questions because of Christian, Muslim and Communist reluctance to come to grips with inconvenient facts.

An investigation of that issue leads to a very important ancillary conclusion namely how pre-Christian history has been successfully throttled in France and other parts of Europe.

The destruction of the French version and of the other European versions of the Ramayan was brought about by Christian proselytizers when they forced Christianity down European throats, through threats, taxation, tyranny, torture, deceit and temptation.

The Latin Version

A Latin version of the Ramayan must also have existed in Europe especially because hundreds of paintings of Ramayanic episodes, including monkey-characters are on display in musems in Italy. That Latin version may either be secreted in the vaults of the Vatican in Rome or may have been destroyed when Emperor

Constantine clamped Christianity on his domains. Since Rome became the spring-board of Christianity all traces of the earlier Vedic civilization should get destroyed there systematically was a foregone conclusion.

That Christian ferocity and zeal was in no way less intense than Arab terror and torture (unleashed for imposing Islam) may be judged from the fact that even Protestant (Hugenot) Christians from France had to flee to Germany to seek safety and shelter from fanatic Catholic repression in France. A second wave of mass cruelty and terror swept France during the French Revolution, towards the close of the 18th century. The current image of suave, soft French culture thus proves deceptive when assessing the history of a neo-Christian, Catholic France.

Slaughtering History

Let readers, therefore, remember how a coercive Christian zeal made Europeans sweep clean all memories of their pre-Christian Vedic civilization into the dustbin of oblivion and fondly believe that they have been nothing but Christians from the dawn of time. Similarly Islam too makes Muslims pretend that there has been no pre-Mohamed civilization to talk of. Communists take the same stance vis-a-vis Karl Marx. These are instances of how history is slaughtered from time to time. To resurrect itself from such fatal assaults history needs to have a Phoenix-like quality.

Adulteration of the Ramayan

Describing how stories not connected with the 12th century Richard the Lion-Hearted, king of England of the Crusades fame have become garbled, Needler observes (on page 18 of his doctoral thesis) "From the many adventures of Richard's life, and his exploits on the field of battle and elsewhere, marvellous enough in themselves, arose in course of time stories much more marvellous still, in which fact had lost itself in fiction. From the realm of actual history, by a gradual transition through chronicles partaking of the nature of both extremes, we pass now to the realm of the completely legendary."

The above observation needs a little correction. Due to Needler's ignorance he has inverted the chronological sequence. The Ramayanic legend already existed in Europe from time immemorial. Therefore Richard of England's exploits have got devetailed into the Ramayanic legend and not vice versa.

Let us now examine some of the continental versions of the Ramayan before turning to the English version under study, which is more replete with Ramayanic happenings.

The German Version

A German poet of the 13th century, Konrad of Wurzburg has left us a poem titled the Turnei of Nantheiz.

Needler observes (on page 20 of his thesis) "This tournament of Nantes.......written in 8-syllabled couplets...is a pure fiction of the poet and has no historical event for its basis.....the hero outshines all competitors by the brilliance of his feats in the lists. He was true and steadfast, powerful, noble and mighty, there lived not his equal....many celebrated kings and princes come to the tournament but Richard surpasses them all in strength and skill. When he entered the ranks of the combatants he clove the thong, just as a keel cuts through the sea foam".

The 8-syllabled couplet is an important detail because in Vedic tradition, the figure 8 has a long sacred tradition.

That German poem is obviously an allusion to the gathering of kings and princes at Janaka's court to try to string Lord Shiva's bow. Rama was the only one who not only lifted the heavy bow but also clove its thong. He is also endowed with divine and super-human qualities as indeed Rama was.

Another proof of ancient Germany having had the Ramayan is the fact that Dr. Hahnemann, the German founder of homoeopathy is named after Hanuman, a well known character of the Ramayan. Even in other European countries the same name occurs as Heinemann.

Weber's Version

The 'contents' noted at the top of Part I, Chapter I of Richard Coeur de Lion, in Metrical Romances edited by Henry W. Weber (Edinburgh, 1810) run as under :-

"King Richard's father....consents at the request of his barons, to marry the fairest woman alive. Messengers are sent to discover her....the marriage is celebrated....the queen being forced to remain at a sacrament, flies through the roof of a church, and takes her two youngest children with her. King Henry dies and leaves his crown to his son Richard".

Two or three slender Ramayanic strands may be detected to have been all mixed-up in the above story.

Dasharath king of Ayodhya marries off Rama to the "fairest woman" Sita. Towards the end of the Ramayan, Sita has to leave for the forest where she begets two sons, Lava and Kusha. In the early chapters of the Ramayan, Dasharath dies thwarted in his desire to crown Rama. All these events have been badly mixed up out of sequence, with the story of the 12th century crusader Richard, King of England in the version quoted above.

Mediaeval European versions of the Ramayan are heavily adulterated with references to Richard, the English king and his courtiers and to Jesus and churches, a sample of which we have seen above.

We now refer to another version which retains several unmistakable elements of the Ramayanic plot though here too they are made to appear to be part of the career of Richard, King of England who ruled from 1189 to 1199 A.D

That version constitutes Chapter VI of Needler's thesis. The contents summarized in the opening lines of the chapter state "Richard sails for Acre - three of his ships are driven by tempest to Cyprus, where they are plundered, and the men killed or taken prisoner. Richard arrives and sends messengers, which are ill-treated by the emperor, who cuts off his steward's nose for remonstrating

against this barbarity. King Richard takes the town of Limasour. The steward delivers the Emperor's daughter, with the great treasure and one hundred knights to him. The King attacks the camp of the Emperor, and routs his army, forcing him to come and submit himself. He endeavours to stir his barons against King Richard, but they refuse and he is imprisoned''.

The above summary clearly contains an outline of the Ramayanic events. Richard is Rama alias Ramachandra. He sails across the Palk Straits to make a naval landing on Lanka. Cyprus like Lanka is also an island. Clearly enough, the Emperor of Cyprus is a substitute for Ravan, the much-dreaded ruler of Lanka. Rama's advance assault-troops are actually killed or taken prisoner by the Emperor of Lanka. Hanuman goes as a messenger but is bound with ropes and chains and produced before the Emperor. There he is ill-treated and insulted. The Emperor's brother Vibhishan remonstrates. The allusion to the Emperor cutting off his steward's nose is a mix up of the Ramayanic episode of Rama's brother, Lakshman cutting off the ears and nose of Shoorpanakha, the sister of Ravan. The incident of the steward delivering the Emperor's daughter is actually a substitute for the Ramayanic event of Vibhishan pleading for the release of (Rama's wife) Sita incarcerated by Ravan. The latter did actually stir his barons (Meghnad, Kumbhakarna and others) against King Rama i.e. Richard. The reference to the imprisonment of the Emperor of Cyprus is a watered-down substitute for the slaying of Ravan by Rama. Limasour is Lankeswar.

We shall now quote hereunder parts of the long English poem as recorded by Needler in his printed thesis from page 80 to 96 indicating how it is an adaptation and adulteration of the Ramayanic story. The spellings are of old English which have since become obsolete. The poem runs as under :-

''King Richard, in peace and rest
For Crystmas, the high feste,
Dwelled there till after the Lent
And then on his way he went''.

This is an allusion to Rama's pious ascetic life and his journey from place to place in the forest (in the direction of Lanka). The religious phraseology used above follows faithfully the style of Valmiki's Sanskrit Ramayana. The poem further narrates -

''Towards Cyprus all sayland,
Charged with tresour every deal,
And soon a sorrowful case there fell
A great tempest arose sodaynly
That lasted five days sykerly
It broke their mast and their oar,
And there Tackle lesse and more,
Anker, both shrette and rother,
Ropes, cords, one and other,
And were in point to sink adown,
As they came agenst the Lymosoure.
The three Shippes right anon,
Brake against the hard stone,
All to pieces they to-tore,
Unrethe the folk saved were,
The mariners unneth it withhelde
That shyppe left in the Shelde
For the Griffons with sharp swordes,
Grete slaughter of our English maked,
And spoiled the quick all naked
Sixteen hundred they brought on-live,
And to prison hundreds five,
And also naked sixty score,
As they were of their mothers bore.''

The above lines describe how the advance assault-parties came to grief because of the tempest, shipwrecks and stiff resistance by the Griffons i.e. the Rakshas armies of Lanka who slaughtered some of the attackers and took others prisoner. Lymosoure is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit word Lankeshwar i. e. Lord of Lanka namely Ravan. Further ahead lines 2073 to 2088 of the camouflaged European Ramayan run as under :-

"The thridde day afterward
The wind came driving Kyng Richard
With all his grate navyes
And his sayling galyes
To a ship that stode in depe
The gentlemen therein dide weape,
And when they saw Richard the King,
Their weeping turned al to laughing
They welcomed him with worshippes,
And told him the braking of their shippes
And the robbery of his tresour,
And all that other dishonour
Then waxed King Richard ful worth,
And he swore a ful grete othe,
By Jesus Christ our Saviour,
It should abye the emperor......"

The above lines obviously recall the Ramayanic episode of the advance assault-troops of Rama's army, being at first bothered by the rough sea and then scattered and slaughtered by Ravan's defending Demon-army. That serious setback made Rama's monkey (this is a technical appellation of wartime guerrillas) troops lose heart. Just at that moment Richard (alias Rama) appeared on the scene. His presence, prowess, valour and divine aura boosted the morale of his soldiers. They regained their composure. Their countenances were wreathed with smiles. They all worshipped Rama since he was an incarnation. The subsequent reference to Jesus Christ is obviously an anachronistic adulteration exemplifying how the latter-day exploits of the English King Richard were mixed up with the earlier Ramayanic legend.

Lines of that same poem from 2089 onwards are :-

"He clepyd Sir Stephen and William
And also Robert of Tournham,
Three gentil barouns of England
Wise of speech doughty of hand,
Now go and say to the emperor,

That he yield again my tresour,
Or, I swear by St. Denys,
I will have three sythe double of his,
And yeld my men out of prisoun,
And for the deed pay raunsoun,
Or hastily, I him warne
I will worke him a harm
Both with spere and with lance
Anou I shall take vengeaunce"

The names of English barons above are substitutes for the Ramayanic barons, such as Nal, Neel, Angad and Hanuman. The line "wise of speech, doughty of hand" is clearly a Ramayanic refrain. Rama bade his messengers to sternly warn Ravan to release all whom he had detained (including Sita).

That those messengers were the monkey-troopers of Rama's army (and not barons of Richard's Christian army) is clearly borne out in the following lines from 2103 onwards :

"The messengers anou forth went
To do their lord's commandment,
And hendely sayd the message
The emperor began to rage,
He grunte his teeth and fast blewe
A knife after Sir Robert he threw
He blent away with a leap,
And it flew in a door a span deep,
And syth he cried, as uncourteys:
Out taylerds, of my paleys!
Now go and say your tayled king
That I owe him no thing......"

The above lines refer to the 'monkey' baron-messengers conveying Rama's stern warning of dire revenge to Ravan. That made Ravan fly into a rage. The reference to (Ravan) the emperor grinding his teeth in wrath is typically Ramayanic. Ravan threw a knife but the leading messenger Robert leaped with agility and

escaped the stab. The word 'leap' obviously implies a monkey. Therefore, the name Robert, in the above lines is clearly a substitute for Hanuman.

In return Ravan thunders a counter-warning which he wants the monkey-messengers to carry back to Rama. Those lines refer to the 'monkey-' troopers as 'taylards' i.e. those with tails. They are ordered to go to their ''tayled king'' i.e. Sugreev and tell him that Ravan (emperor of Cyprus alias Lanka) owed him nothing i.e. was under no obligation to fulfil the demand to release Sita and surrender himself.

Ravan adds

> ''I am feel glad of his lore,
> I wil him yield none other answore
> And he shall find me to morrow
> At the haven to do him sorrow,
> And work him as much wrake,
> As his men that I have take''.

In the above lines Ravan threatens to storm Sugreev's own camp the next day and wreck it in the very manner in which the monkey-army played havoc with Ravan's forces.

The departure of the ''monkey'' messengers and subsequent developments are described thus:-

> ''The messengers went out ful swythe
> of their escaping they were blithe
> The emperor's steward with honour,
> Said thus unto the emperor:
> ''Sir, he said thou hast un-right,
> thou haddest almost slain a knight,
> that was messenger unto a king,
> the best under Sun shining
> Thou hast thyself Tresour grete plente'.
> If thou it witheld it were pite:
> For he is crossed a pilgrim,

> And all his men that be with him,
> Let him do his pilgrimage
> And kepe thyself from damage''.

The monkey-messengers were so shabbily treated by Ravan that they were apprehensive of being slain. So when they were released they felt greatly relieved and departed from Lanka (alias Cyprus).

Thereafter the ''steward'' (i.e. Vibhishan) minister-counsellor and brother of Ravan, humbly suggested after due obeisance to Ravan that messengers must be treated with due respect Therefore, in his view of court-propriety and etiquette Ravan's rough treatment of ''monkey'' - messengers, almost to the point of slaying them was not right. They were representing a monarch 'best under the Sun' i.e. the divine, illustrious Ramachandra. Ravan had seized lot of treasure during his raids, and also Sita, which he ought to hand over to Rama. It would be a pity if he refused to release it (i.e. the treasure and Sita). Rama was moreover leading the life of an ascetic sojourning in forests. Therefore, there was no point in obstructing Rama and his companions. If, however, Ravan persisted in being adamant and obstructive he could do so at his own risk, for thereby he would do himself great damage.

Ravan's reaction to that piece of advice is narrated as under:-

> ''The eyen twinkled of the emperour,
> And smiled as an evil traytour
> His knife he drew out of his shethe,
> Therewith to do the steward scathe
> And called him without fail,
> And said he wold him accounsayl,
> The steward on knees him set down
> With the emperour for to rown
> And the emperour of evil trusle
> Carved off his nose by the grusle
> And said, ''traytour, thief, Steward
> Go, playne to Englyshe taylarde

And if he come on my londe,
I shall him do swiche a shonde,
Him and all his men quick slain
But he in haste turn again''.

The above is a reference to Vibhishan advising his brother Ravan, the emperor of Lanka, to release Sita. Ravan is enraged and brands Vibhishan a traitor and thief. In the version of the Ramayan in India it is Lakshman who cuts off the nose of Shoorpanakha, the sister of Ravan. We dub the European version a garble because though it retains the nose-chopping incident it transfers it to the Ravan-Vibhishan dispute.

Thereafter, Vibhishan's expulsion from Lanka or, may be, his own decision to leave Lanka for Rama's camp is retained in the European version too and Ravan vows to slaughter any enemy troops which might again attempt a landing on his island-headquarters.

The poem then moves on to say :-

''The steward his nose hente,
(I wyes his visage was-y-shente,)
Quickly out of the castle ran;
Leve he took of no man.
The messengers mercy he cried,
For Mary's love in that tide,
They sholde tell to their lord,
of dishonour end and word, -
''And haste you again to lord
And I shall sese into your hand
The keys of every tour,
And I shall bring him this night,
The emperour's daughter bright,
and also an hundred knights,
Stout in battle good in fights,
Agenst that false emperour
that hath done us this dishonour''.

The above lines conform to the usual Ramayanic version that

when rebuffed by Ravan, Vibhishana left the palace in a huff; so much so that he did not take formal leave of anybody. He contacted the monkey-messengers of Rama and requested them to convey to their master (Rama) the insult meted out to him by Ravan, as a result of which he was eager that Rama's army should land on Lanka with Vibhishan promising them all help such as letting them in, handing over the keys to every tower, delivering the bright Sita (who is misrepresented as Ravan's daughter in the European version) and secure for them local troop-reinforcements under 100 dissident knights in the fight against the cruel, selfish emperor who had insulted both Vibhishan and the monkey-messengers.

The rest of what Vibhishan says or threatens is almost identical with the Indian version.

The poem then goes on to describe the departure of the monkey-messengers thus :-

''The messengers them hyed hard,
Till they came to King Richard
They found Kyng Richard at play,
At the chess in his galeye;
The Earl of Richmond with him played
And Richard won all that he layd.

The monkey-messengers flew back to Rama's camp. Rama playing chess at the time is not mentioned in Valmiki's Sanskrit Ramayan. But what is stated in the European version is a very plausible detail because chess is based on war-strategy and it was natural for war-heroes like Rama to play chess in war-camps while on an expedition. Secondly the mention that Rama won everything that he staked, accords with his role as an incarnation and a war-leader who suffered no defeat.

The monkey-leader-messenger Hanuman's talks with Rama are described in the following lines :-

''The messenger told al the dishonour
That them did the emperour

And the despite he did his steward,
And the steward's presenting
His behest, and his helping
Then answered King Richard
"Of your sawes I am blythe
Anon let us to land swithe!"

The monkeys narrated the harsh treatment they had received and the physical injury inflicted on Vibhishan by Ravan. They added that Vibhishana had offered to actively help Rama's invasion of Lanka. On that Rama assured the messengers that in view of their ill-treatment at Ravan's court they ought forthwith to prepare to launch an assault on Lanka.

The war-preparations that ensued are described as under :-

"A great cry arose fote-hot;
Out was shot many a bote
The bowmen and eke the arblasters
Armed them all at aventers,
And shot quarelles and eke flone
As thick as the hail-stone
The folk of the countre gan reune,
And were fain to void and flenne.
The barons, and good knightes,
After came anon rights,
With their Lord King Richard,
That never was found coward."

Rama's army was put on the alert. Brisk preparations began. Numerous boats laden with troops put out to sea and hurried towards Lanka. A barrage of missiles as thick as hailstones was let loose. The people of Lanka took to their heels at th. ·termined and well-organised assault. This description accords ·ith the Sanskrit original. The advance assault-parties were soon followed by their Lord King Richard i.e. by Lord Ramachandra accompanied by a number of his generals. Lord Rama was known to be always brave. This is a typical Ramayanic concept which figures meticulously in the English version too.

Some lines later Rama's alias Richard's landing is described thus:-

"And when he came into Cyprus Land,
The ax he tok in his hond
All that he hit he all to - frapped
The Griffons away fast rapped,
Natheles many he cleaved,
And their unthanks their bylived,
And the prisonn when he came to,
With his ax he smot right tho,
Dores, barres and iron chains,
And delivered his men out of pains.
He let them al deliver cloth,
For their despyte he was wroth,
And swore by Jesus our Savyour,
He should abye, that fals emperour,
Al the burgesses of the town,
Richard let slee without ransoun;
Their tresour and their meles
He took to his own deles.

Rama landed armed with an axe and started a fierce attack on Ravan's armed forces. The term Griffons above refers to the Rakshasas. They were assaulted and slain. Pushing ahead Rama made his way to the prison where Rama's troopers taken captive in earlier assaults had been lodged. The doors, bars and chains were smashed and the prisoners of war were set free. Thereafter continuing his advance Rama slew Ravan's officials and generals who opposed him and captured their treasure and other belongings.

News of the landing and advance of Rama's troops as conveyed to Ravan are described in the following lines :-

Tidings came to the emperour,
Kyng Richard was in Lymasour,
And had his burgesses to deth do,

No wonder though him were wo,
He sent anon without fail
After all his counsayl,
That they come to him on hie,
To wreck him of his enemy.

When Ravan was informed that Rama (i.e.Richard) had landed and that the Lankan elite were being slain, that was undoubtedly woeful news for Ravan.

The name of the location, Lymasour where Richard (i.e.Ramachandra) arrived is particularly an important detail. Lymasour is obviously a late European distortion of the name Lankeswar.

The term Lankeswar would appropriately apply only to Ravan and not to his township. But there is another aspect by which it would apply to the city or headquarters where Ravan resided. Consider the parallel instance of the term Rameswar. That term connotes Shiva the deity whom Rama worshipped. But currently Rameswar is the name of the township where that deity is consecrated. Consequently, the term Rameswar is indicative of both the deity and city. Likewise the term Lymasour would apply both to Lanka and its lord, Ravan.

Thus the poem goes on and on. The lines quoted above should leave no one in any doubt about the prevalence of the Ramayan and consequently of Vedic culture in ancient Europe.

The version we have quoted above belongs to the 13th century. That was quite late. The Christians started invading Europe in a big way, in the 4th century. Like termites and grasshoppers eating away everything they land on, Christianity (and Islam) blighted and blotted out all vestiges of the Vedic civilization from the whole of Europe and West Asia.

We hope that the limited information given here and in another chapter would induce at least some readers to undertake thorough research on the Ramayanic tradition and literature of ancient Europe

and other parts of the world.

In India academies conducting research in ancient literature, have erred in looking for editions of the Ramayan and Mahabharat only in Eastern countries. The details given above should convince them that the Ramayan has been a world epic and not of the Hindus and India alone.

Narad

In ancient Sanskrit scriptures there is a very revered celestial sage who shuttles between all the three worlds conveying important news and tidings and at times creating mischievous, puckish complications but all with holy intent and a touch of humour. That peripatetic sage is Narad. He carries a tambore in one hand and a pair of cymbals in another and keeps singing praises of the supreme lord, while on his self-divined errands.

This rare character too was familiar to ancient Europeans as is apparent from the following passage on page 15 of Needler's doctoral thesis. It notes "In the year 1180-1200 flourished the Troubadour known by the name of the Monk of Montandon. This peculiarly-favoured individual tells us how that, Enoch-like, he frequently visited Paradise during his life-time, and in his poems he gives accounts of the conversations that he there held with the Almighty...."

The term Troubadour is the Sanskrit word Tambourdhar (as 'Surrender' is the Sanskrit term 'Sharan-dhar') i.e. one holding a Tambour. It applied to wandering minstrels who sang holy ballads as they went from place to place. The Monk of Montandon (a mythological substitute of Narad) was one such. The songs he sang were obviously latter-day Christian adaptations of the earlier Vedic stories of the Narad tradition. Such substitution was easy because it needed no new effort or inspiration. The old songs and accounts had only to be recast in a new Christian form. The main object in so doing was, however, to cover up and obliterate old Vedic tracks and trails. In such obfuscation the Spanish, French and Portuguese Catholics in their neo-Christian fanatic zeal seem to have played a very sinister, devilish, destructive role. How Italian

neo-Christians too played a similar fiendish role in blotting out Vedic scriptures from their country, can be determined only after all the ancient secret, suppressed records of the Vatican and other Italian archives are thoroughly probed.

The Norse-German Ramayan

The 8th century Norse legend, Hildebrand Lied is a mutilated part of an ancient German epic. It is the story of a brave warrior, Hildebrand returning home after 30 years to confront a brave, young German warrior who turns out to be his son. Later the warrior, his son and wife recognize one another and are reconciled. This is obviously a fragment of the Ramayanic episode in which Rama unknowingly fights against his twin sons Lava and Kusha. Ultimately they recognize one another and the family (including Sita, the consort of Rama), is reunited.

The Russian Ramayan

The **Times of Deccan**, (an English Daily published from Bangalore, India) carried in its issue of December 15, 1982, a news item on its front page, saying **"Ramayan in Kalmyk.** Moscow: The Ramayan has been published in Kalmyk language in Elista, the capital of the Soviet Kalmyk Republic, reports Tass. The book was translated by philologists from its Sanskrit original. The report said Kalmyk folklore retained a multitude of oral versions of Ramayan. The libraries of the Republic also keep seven manuscript texts of the poem in the old Kalmyk alphabet"

That item indicates that Russia has some ancient Sanskrit Ramayanic texts and that every European country must have had at least some remnants of the Ramayanic legend which have escaped Christian destruction.

As a result of invaders tearing the Ramayan, Mahabharat and other Sanskrit scriptures to pieces, only stray fragments of those ancient epics kept floating in the European and Muslim mind. Those fragments appeared later as detached stories adulterated with some local details in Christian and Muslim literature. Consequently lay, inadvertent readers are not able to identify them to be of Hindu,

Vedic origin. This appears to be a serious drawback of modern research.

The term Kalmyk rhymes with Valmiki, the name of the original author of the Ramayan. It could be that the name Kalmyk (Republic) commemorates Valmiki-the author of the Ramayan, since Russia was the land of Vedic sages.

The book on different Mongolian (including Kalmyk) versions of the Ramayan is in Russian. Its author alias compiler is Damodin Suren and it has been published from Leningrad. Damodin is the Sanskrit name Damodar. Suren is a European abbreviation of Shoorsen or surendra.

A folk-version in Kalmyk language from the banks of the Volga is found in the manuscript of professor C.F. Golstunsky. It is preserved at the Siberian branch of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. Some more manuscripts of the Ramayan in Russian and Mongolian languages are also preserved in Leningrad.

The general presumption that Rama as a deity was known and revered only in India or Asia is thus not true.

Elsewhere in this volume also lies scattered in different chapters additional immense evidence of the Ramayan having been revered, recited and enacted as devoutly in Europe, Africa and other continents of the world too. This topic however needs fuller research.

Rama Leela in the Ancient Western World

All readers are bound to be pleasantly surprised to know that all West Asian nations,now Muslim and all European, African and American countries currently Christian or Muslim, having been followers of the ancient Vedic, Aryan world brotherhood, used to celebrate the Rama Leela with as much gusto and devout regularity as do the Hindus even today.

Another surprising fact is that the top hat and the tail coat which constitute the formal dress of Western Christian diplomats have their origin in the attire of Hanuman in ancient European

Rama Leela stage shows. Since Hanuman, the envoy of Sri Rama, used to visit Ravana's court in a tail coat, that coat still forms part of all European diplomats' formal attire. This leads to a third very important conclusion, namely, that since times immemorial Lord Rama, the Vedic incarnation, has been the ideal of kinghood throughout the Western world too as He has been in the East.

These findings not only indicate the extent to which history has been suppressed either through deliberate design or crass ignorance but they also open up a vast new virgin field of historical research.

Let us see whether the name Hanuman itself survives among Europeans. Recall the name Hahnemann. He was the German physician who discovered the homoeopathic system of medicine. His name is clearly the Hindu Ramayanic term Hanuman. With this clue it should not be difficult to trace the other names of Hanuman among Europeans, such as Maruti, Kapiraja, Vayuputra, Vajrangabali, Anjanisuta and Anjaneya. These names are bound to exist in distorted form even among non-Europeans in other parts of the world. Let us now look for the name Rama itself among Europeans. Here is an extract from page 298 of the Shell Company's Guide to Ireland compiled by Lord Killanin and Michael. V. Duigan (Eubury Press, London 1967)

While describing Gorey County and the market town of Wexford the guidebook notes "M. N. (i. e. one mile north) is Ramsfort House built... in 1751. Here is preserved a stone from the bishop's palace built at Fern by the sage Bishop Thomas Ram in 1630. The inscription reads :

> "This house Ram built for his succeeding brothers
> Thus sheep bear wool, not for themselves but others."

From the above extract it should be apparent that Ramsfort House built in 1751 is named after Lord Rama, and the Bishop who built the Bishop's palace at Fern in 1630 was himself named Rama. In England there is a seaside town, east of London, called Ramsgate. Rome, the capital of Italy, is itself founded after Lord Rama and therefore called the Eternal City. So both Rama and Hanuman can be traced in all Western countries even today if close research is undertakeen. Even the Sanskrit word Kila for fort is very common in Ireland as in Killanin and Kilpatrick.

Now as regards actual visual proof whether the Europeans know Rama as the warrior hero and Hanuman as sporting a tail, even these exist in abundance. Scholars who have authored books on archaeological finds in Italy have published pictures sketched in ancient Italian homes, of Ramayanic scenes depicting Rama, Seeta, Lakshmana, Ravana, Hanuman, Sugreeva, Dasharatha, Sumantra and a host of other Ramayanic characters. But the Italian archaeologists and historians in their Christian ignorance have chosen to keep discreetly silent or have been ignorant about the discovery of Shivalingas and Ramayanic frescoes. It is now upto scholars outside Italy to pull that curtain of secrecy or ignorance away. And since there is so much hidden or suppressed evidence still of the ancient Vedic civilization in Italy itself, there should not be any doubt that there must still be a lot of similar evidence in the museums and archaeological sites all over Europe which has escaped systematic Christian destruction because it was too colossal to be destroyed.

There is also another type of evidence, namely literary, to prove that Rama Leela ballets and stage shows used to be performed throughout the (now) Western, Muslim and Christian regions of the world; and in those shows Hanuman the envoy of Rama, used to wear a tail coat and a top hat, which have ever since become the hall-marks of Western diplomats.

For such literary evidence one may refer to the footnote on page 302 of volume II of Marco Polo's Travel Account, translated and edited by Sir Henry Yule (London, John Murray, Albemarle Street, 1903 A. D.) The footnote states : "It was a story among mediaeval Mohammedans that the members of the imperial house of Trebizond were endowed with short tails while mediaeval continentals had like stories, about Englishmen, as Matthew Paris relates."

This is proof that all people who are currently Muslims had earlier been avid readers of the Ramayana and so were the ancient inhabitants of the British Isles.

The term Trebizond is obviously a corruption of the term Kishkindha mentioned in the Ramayana because it was the royal house of Kishkindha which sported some sort of a tail in its attire.The reference above that it was a short tail is confirmed by the tail coats of Western diplomats, actually having short tails.

That portraits of Hanuman were hung in every home in West Asia before the people there were forced to become Muslims is apparent from a picture of an hairy monkey wielding a rock with both his hands raised over his head, from Persia which hangs in the Salarjung Museum in Hyderabad (India). Muslim West Asians now dub those erstwhile portraits to be those of ghosts and spirits. That description is crudely realistic inasmuch as what remains after killing Vedic culture would be nothing but spooks and spectres.

The same footnote records that even in India "the Princes of Porbandar in Gujarat, claim descent from the monkey god, Hanuman, and allege in justification a spinal elongation which gets them the name of Puchchariah, i. e. Taylards. The Chinese also have their tailed men in the mountains above Canton. In Africa there have been many such stories, of some of which an accoun will be found in the Bulletine de lasoe. do Goeg. Sir IV, Tom. iii, page 31." A. Ramada International Hotel, Am Seesterm 40547, Dusseldorf, commemorates Rama.

That indicates that the Ramayana was part of a world culture from China to Africa and Europe.

Ramayanic Markings in Peru?

Curious straight lines of razor sharpness, more than a kilometer long run across the desert in Southern Peru extending over dry hills and valleys reaching out into the far horizon.

Throughout hundreds of square kilometers are similar other lines and designs most of them concentrated between the towns

and Namaz and Palpa.

A mysterious melange of straight lines, triangles, quadrangles, trapezoids and some spirals are also clubbed together under those lines.

The lines are drawn with pebbles and stones.

The gigantic designs sketched across an uneven terrain include a veritable zoo of giant birds, reptiles, monkeys spiders and other creatures.

All these can be properly viewed only from a height of 300 meters or over above the ground.

Could these belong to the Ramayanic and Mahabharat times which often refer to intercommunication between three planets including our Earth, to guide space vehicles!

France's Rama Tradition

In ancient France all its sovereigns used to be crowned at Reims (pronounced in French as Reim). Obviously it was a township named after Rama. After his coronation every French sovereign used to pay homage to the icon of Rama consecrated in the central shrine of that township. The oldest and centremost cathedral of that township is the sita of the original Rama temple. Excavations in all churches in Reims are bound to reveal traces of its Vedic past. That French royal tradition reveals how in the pre-Christian (and pre-Islamic) world Rama was regarded as an ideal to be emulated by all monarchs. The Bishop there was also Remis i. e. Rama.

Ramayanic Tradition in Italy

An international Ramayan conference was held at Villa Guliano, in Turin, Italy from April 13 to 17, 1992 where the exceptional qualities of Rama, such as an obedient son, dedicated husband, courageous warrior, ideal ruler, epitome of truth, justice and humility were remembered.

Prof. Oscat Botto, a scholar of Sanskrit, Head of the Department

of Oriental Studies, University of Turin, President of the Piedmont Centre of Middle and Far East Studies (CESMEO) along with a small team of dedicated workers such as Dr. Irma Piovano, Director of the CESMEO, and Dr. Victor Agostini, Executive in CESMEO hosted the conference.

More than 50 Sanskrit and indological scholars from different parts of the world, such as England, Holland, Germany, Belgium, Japan, Thailand, Srilanka, India and almost the same number from Italy participated in the conference.

It is a pity that none of the learned participants named above was aware that the Ramayana is a world epic and not of the Hindus or India, alone. Upto the time of the Mahabharat war and even later until the imposition of Christianity and Islam all people in the world followed Vedic culture and spoke Sanskrit.

A graphic proof of that is found in the rich Ramayanic tradition of Italy itself about which too the conference participants showed total ignorance.

The words Rome and Roman are themselves malpronunciations of the Sanskrit words Rama and Raman.

Just diametrically opposite to Rome (the city of Rama) in Italy is Ravenna, (the city on the Adriatic coast) named after Ravan, the adversary of Rama.

Among the pre-Christian Etruscan-era paintings of ancient Italy I have detected at least 10 which depict Ramayanic episodes.

The names Remus and Romulus of the founders of Rome are themselves derivatives of the name Rama.

Mondodari, the biggest publishing firm in Italy bears the exact name of Ravan's chief queen.

Remus and Romulus being nurtured by a she-wolf in a forest, is an allegory of Sita nurturing her twin sons Kush and Lava in the forest.

What is more the very concept 'Vrickodara' i. e. born of a wolf, implying inborn bravery is a hoary and holy expression peculiar to Vedic culture.

It is hoped that Ramayanic scholars of all educational establishments throughout the world would lose no time in imbibing the above information.

Deadened Academic Sensibilities

Islamic and Christian fundamentalism running amok throughout the world deliberately destroyed all the pre-Mohammed and pre-Christian histories of all converts.

That vandalism has so deadened the academic sensibilities of Muslims and Christians that Muslim countries teach no pre-Mohammed history, while seemingly progressive European and American countries keep totally mum about their pre-conversion histories.

This was graphically illustrated by the 9th Ramayanic conference in Italy where all the participating scholars were totally ignorant of the strong Ramayanic heritage of the Romans themselves.

The month-long Islamic fast called Ramazan is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit word Ramadhyan i. e. meditating on Rama. That reveals the ancient Arabic practice of chanting Rama naam during. Ramazan also pronounced as Ramadan i. e. Ramadhyan.

♦♦

KRISHNA - THE UNIVERSAL DEITY

In Vedic tradition Rama and Krishna are revered as incarnations. Since in ancient times Vedic culture was a universal faith, Krishna was as reverently worshipped in the rest of the world as He is in India.

In pre-Christian times the temples of Vedic deities such as Vishnu, Shiva, the Mother Goddess, Rama, Hanuman, and Krishna used to abound in all regions of the world. Evidence of this is found in the works of ancient authors such as Megasthenes, Strabo and Herodotus. All those names are of Vedic origin too. The term Megasthenes is (मेघ स्थान ईश) Megh-Sthan-eesh i.e. the Lord of the Region of the Clouds i.e. of the skies. The name Herodotus is (हरिदूतस) Hari-dootus i.e. Messenger of God. In fact the Muslim term Paigambar is the Islamic equivalent of the Greek term Herodotus.

Herodotus has recorded "I made a voyage to Tyra in Phoenicia hearing there was a temple of Hercules at that place very highly venerated. I visited the temple and found it."[1]

Herodotus himself was a devout Hindu alias Vedist. There is nothing surprising about this because in his time people were generally very devout and there was nothing except Vedic culture throughout the world. The temple of Hercules he visited was obviously that

(1) P.136, Vol.I, Herodotus.

of Krishna alias Chrisn because Hari-cul-eesh (हरि-कुल-ईश) is a Sanskrit term signifying 'an incarnation of the line of Hari i.e. Vishnu'. And Krishna is indeed regarded as the 8th incarnation.

In Vedic tradition Krishna is known by various names. Consequently even in Europe Krishna was known by different names. His name Chrisn was spelled as Christ and his famous discourse (the Bhagawad Geeta) was described as Chrisn-nity i.e. the sermon preached or advocated by Chrisn. It is that term Chrisn-nity which is being misunderstood and misinterpreted as Christ-nity alias Christianity. More information on this point appears in several other contexts in this volume.

Krishna in Holland

In Amsterdam, (in Holland) the biggest hotel is named after Lord Krishna, as Krisnapolsky.

Even the term Amsterdam is the Sanskrit word Antardham i.e. a region below (sea-level). The term Netherlands has the same meaning as Antardham. Consequently, Anterdham alias Amsterdam and Netherlands alias Anetherland are synonyms. Both are Sanskrit.

Krishna in Spain

In Spain the promontary near Cadiz has been known since ancient times as sacred land because according to Strabo it had many temples[2] of Rhadamanthus. That term is the Sanskrit compound (राधा-मनस्थ-ईश) meaning the God residing in the heart of Radha. In the Krishna lore Radha an elderly lady had great filial affection for the orphaned, cute, naughty child Krishna. Their affection is legendary. Consequently Krishna is also known as the Lord who resided in Radha's heart. That was, therefore, one of Krishna's popular epithets in Europe too. Consequently a number of temples of Rhadamanthus find a mention in Greek tradition. They were temples of Krishna. Likewise temples of Hercules also signified temples of Krishna. In India too temples of Krishna are known after various names of Lord Krishna.

(2) P.253, Vol. I, Strabo's Geography.

Albert J.Edmunds observes, "Strabo considered all Asia as far as India to be consecrated to Bachhus where Hercules and Bacchus are called Kings of the East. The last religions of Babylon and Egypt were born there. Even the Greeks and the Romans were debtors thereto for the cult of Bacchus and Mithras."[3]

That extract indicates that according to Strabo all Asia worshipped Bacchus i.e. Trymbakesh i.e. Lord Shiv. He also tells us that Hercules (i.e.Krishna) and Bacchus (i.e.Lord Shiva) were known as Kings i.e.supreme deities of the East. Since the religions of Babylon and Egypt were also born in Asia, those two countries also practised Vedic culture. And since Greeks and Romans too observed the cults of the worship of Bacchus (i.e.Shiv) and Mithras (i.e.the Sun) it is obvious that the whole world followed Vedic culture because all the divinities mentiond above are Vedic deities.

An ancient Greek author's name is Onesicritus. Obviously that is Om Srikrishnas (ॐ श्रीकृष्णास्).

Since Hari alias God Krishna was the guardian deity of the Greeks they greet one another with the words 'Hari Tu Tay' i.e. 'May Hari look after you" or "bless you".

What are currently believed to be Christian traditions are ancient Essenese practices. H.Spencer Lewis observes "In recent years the Dead Sea scrolls have confirmed the author's reference to the Essenese and their secret teachings which preceded Christianity.....The sect possessed years before Christ, a terminology and practice that have always been considered uniquely Christian. The Essenese practised baptism and shared a liturgical breakfast of bread and wine presided over by a priest."[4]

Eshan being the Sanskrit name of Lord Shiva the Essenese

(3) P.44, Buddhist and Christian Gospels, by Albert J.Edmunds, the Yukwan Publishing House, Tokyo 1905 A.D.

(4) P.31, The Secret Doctrines of Jesus, by H.Spencer Lewis, Supreme Grand Lodge of AMORC, San Jose, California, 1972.

were Vedists who worshipped Lord Shiva. Since Christianity has adopted all Essenese practices, as mentioned above, Christianity is merely a deceptive separatist label.

Vatican has Hidden Vedic Records

In order to justify its Christian character all ancient Vedic records of the Vatican were hurriedly hidden away or destroyed on the day that emperor Constantine's troops swooped on the Vatican around 312 A. D.

We get an inkling of it in H.Spencer Lewis's book, though the author himself divulges that information, unwittingly and without understanding its implication himself since he writes as a devout believer. He states -

"Unquestionably the Holy Roman Church has preserved in its secret archives in Rome or elsewhere many sacred manuscripts....There is considerable evidence to indicate that within its sealed vaults **inaccessible to all but a very few are certain original documents...** Some other rare documents preserved in the Vatican or within the walls of Vatican city are copies of original documents and records which are preserved in archives outside of the control of the Holy Roman church. In other places, fortified archives of great antiquity, are preserved other documents and records, and in the secret archives of several monastic orders of a **non-sectarian nature are preserved** other documents and records, open to occasional examinaton by competent authorities..... **To believe that the creators of the Holy Roman Church made no exhaustive study of the** manuscripts and records in their possession, or which they had agents searching for in every land, is to ignore the fact that their own records of their council discussions and debates reveal how carefully they weighed every reference. Year after year, century after century, these debates continued, and the records of them clearly show that the councillors had before them many rare records which they officially proclaimed as either '**incompetent**', **dangerous, secret or contradictory** to the principle of **Christian theology** which they were gradually establishing ....**The matter of the selection**

of the manuscripts constituting the Books of the Bible offers an excellent picture of how these high councils arbitrarily chose and rejected authentic and reliable sources of information at their disposal."[5]

We have highlighted some words in the above extract to draw readers' attention to the manipulation and secrecy that is associated with the ancient records of the so-called Christian headquarters namely the Vatican. If the Vatican is hiding some records could it still be considered Holy? If even a so-called religious organization has something to hide like the headquarters of a political party or the office of a criminal gang why should the first one be considered holier than the other two? And the very fact that the Vatican has hidden certain documents (and also obviously idols, manuscripts, Vedic liturgic material and inscriptions) and rejected some as dangerous, secret and incompetent one may safely assume that some other documents may have been concocted and forged too.

From the above it is clear that Christianity has a lot of things to hide about its origin. This is a clear case of suppresio veri and suggestio falsi. This is true of Islam too because both Islam and Christianity originate in violence. Their aim was political dominance and military suppression of all opposition. Consequently both Christianity and Islam were spread with military might; Christianity by the Roman legions, and Islam by Arab, Iranian and Turkish hordes.

In another book of his, H.Spencer Lewis has unwittingly supplied evidence which goes to prove that the Essenese were Hindus i.e.Vedists. He observes "Every member of the Essenese in Egypt or Palestine had to be a pure-blooded descendant of the Aryan race."[6]

We have explained elsewhere in this volume that Arya is not

(5) Pp.225-227, ibid

(6) P.28, The Mystical Life of Jesus, by H.Spencer. Lewis, Supreme Grand Lodge of AMORC, San Jose, California 1953

a racial term. An Aryan is a follower of Vedic culture, one who leads a life according to Vedic rules and ideals. Consequently the Essenese were Aryans i.e.Vedists. That is why they derived their name from Eshan i.e.Lord Shiv.

The same author adds "Immediately upon initiation, each member adopted a robe of white composed of one piece of material, and he wore sandals."[7]

This is precisely the Vedic practice. Therefore, people known as Aryans, Essenese, Samaritans, Stoics, Saduceans, Romans, Egyptians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Greeks, Jews, Arabs, Chinese etc.etc. were all Hindus i.e. followers of a common universal Vedic culture before they were forcibly drawn into other coercive sects and religions.

Spencer Lewis adds "It became well known about them that their word was equal to any agreement or contract in writing."[8]

This principle of sticking to one's words and telling the truth and nothing but the truth is a well known Vedic tenet and ideal. Rama is known for fulfilling every word of His. In Sanskrit the word 'Vachan' means a statement and also promise because Sanskrit, Vedic tradition assumes that every word uttered by a person has the same force and validity as a promise.

Krishna Worship

Spencer Lewis's book mentioned above carries on page 135 the sketch of an holy child wearing a crown, with the caption "*research has revealed that a similar statue of a holy child was exhibited on Christmas Day in many lands before the Christian era.*"

The above sentence has a streak of unintended humour. How could there be a Christmas Day before Christ? Yet the author's statement is valuable evidence which seems to have been lost on Spencer Lewis himself. Since he talks of a Christmas Day long before Christ, obviously that was Chrisnmas Day i.e. a particular

(7) P. 29, ibid.
(8) P.35, ibid.

day reserved for Krishna's alias Chrisn's worship in the month i.e. 'mas' named after Him. The termination 'mas' is Sanskrit, meaning a month.

The only Holy child wearing a crown, whose statue used to be displayed on Christmas Day before Jesus, was Krishna. Consequently even the statue of Jesus is only an unhistorical, proselytized substitute for child Krishna's statue. That is why the scene and setting of Christ's birth is identical with that of Krishna's birth.

The crown too is an important detail. Jesus is never known to have worn any crown (even in his fictitious career) except one of thorns. But Krishna is invariably shown wearing a golden crown. This too proves that the statue of a holy child wearing a crown, exhibited on Christmas Day before Jesus, was that of Chrisn (alias Krishna).

On page 82 of his book Spencer Lewis has published a picture of a cobra, adding "The Serpent was used as a mythical symbol in the early, sacred writings of various schools of religion. The Serpent was also the emblem of the Holy Ghost."

At the time of the creation Lord Vishnu is shown reclining on the coils of a multi-hooded cobra.

The episode of Krishna diving into the Yamuna river to subdue the fierce, hostile cobra (named Kaliya) forms an important event in Krishna's life-story. Likewise the multi-hooded cobra serves as the canopied pedestal of most Vedic deities. Also the Vedic Yoga system characterizes the spinal chord from its base at the waist to the cerebrum as the serpentine energy animating the individual.

Such multifarious significance of the cobra in Vedic tradition has no base in Christian lore. Yet if the cobra legend survives in Christian tradition that is because Christianity is only a misleading shell. Its kernel is all Vedic. Both Christianity and Islam are hijacked, fossilized branches of Vedic culture.

That the term Christ is only an alternative pronunciation of

the name Chrisn is obvious from Spencer Lewis's observation that "the word or title Christos had been used in the mystery schools and in the Orient for the name and title of many of the former Avatars. Christos originally came from the name of one of the Egyptian deities. There was old Hermes, whose name has been corrupted or translated into "Hiram of Tyre. The Egyptian letter or dipthong 'KH' is a highly aspirated 'H' and by the Greeks is usually transcribed as X, and vice versa. The value of the Greek X is usually transcribed as 'Ch'. The KHeru of the Egyptians would be therefore 'Cheru' or 'CH-R'. These latter letters form the famous 'XP' of the early Christians, which I personally saw and traced on several stones of the tombs in the Catacombs of Rome."[9]

The author clearly admits that Christos (i.e. Chrisn) was the name of many of the former avatars i.e.incarnations. Those incarnations were all part of the earlier worldwide Vedic culture.

Krishna in Egypt

Similarly we are informed that the Christos alias Chrisn incarnation was also an Egyptian deity. He was known as Hermes and Hiram. The Sanskrit term Hari-eesh i.e. 'Hari the God' survives in Western tradition slightly distorted as Hermes and Hiram.

We are also told that the Egyptian syllable 'Kheru' alias 'Chr' is written as 'X' in Greek. This is a very important point. It clearly proves that 'X' is the Greek letter which represents the Sanskrit syllable 'Chr' in the name Chrisn. This is further corroborated by the fact that 'Christmas' is written as 'X' mas apparently because 'X' in Greek stands for the Sanskrit syllable 'Chr' in the name Chrisn (alias 'Khr' and 'KHrsn'). It follows therefore that Christmas alias 'X' mas is a festival commemorating Chrisn, alternatively pronounced as Christ. Consequently Christmas alias Chrisnmas should be appropriately celebrated with discourses on the Bhagawad Geeta and Krishna and not on a mythical Jesus Christ.

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(9) P.156, Ibid.

That the Egyptian Krishtos (alias Krishna or Chrisn) was the same as the Indian Krishna is apparent from a footnote on page 90 of the book titled, **The Celtic Druids** by Godfrey Higgins saying "In the French War, the British sepoys on their arrival from India at ancient Thebes in Egypt, found their God Krishna, and instantly fell to worshipping....."

Greece too worshipped the same deity Krishna. Their letter 'X' stands for the first syllable 'Kri' of the Sanskrit name Krishna. The other letter 'P' in the XP monogram of the early Christians stands for 'Purushottam' i.e. the best among men as Krishna was known. Thus the fancied Christian symbol XP stands for the Vedic deity Chrisna Purushottam.

The mythical Christ is known as the Son of God precisely because the term Christ is a misnomer for Chrisn who was God himself come down in human form as son of Vasudev and Devaki. Even the term Christian-ity is the Sanskrit term Chrisnan-ity meaning followers of Chrism.

Krishna in Iraq

Krishna playing the flute appears on postal stamps of Iraq, commemorating the 1979 Mosual Spring Festival. Similar huge portraits of Lord Krishna also appear on rear windows of some public buses in Baghdad, the capital of Iraq. In the same postal stamp series is included the picture of an octagonal building which obviously is an ancient Krishna temple currently known as the Dome on the Rock in Jerusalem. Baghdad itself is named after Bhagwan (Krishna) as Bhagavad(Nagar), i. e Krishna City.

Krishna in Mecca

The precincts of the Kaaba in Mecca are known as Haram because prior to being captured in the name of Islam the Kaba was Hariyam i.e. a temple of Hari alias Vishnu alias Krishna.

Krishna in Jerusalem

The term Jerusalem itself spelled earlier as Yerushaleim alias

Yedu-ishalayam (as explained elsewhere in this volume) signifies a township of Lord Krishna. Likewise the term Israel is Iswaralaya i.e. the abode of God (Krishna). The term Bethlehem and Nazareth too originate in the Krishna legend.

Krishna in Islam

The term Isalayam (i.e. the House of God) is a Sanskrit word referring to Krishna. And the fancied Muslim epithet 'Karim' is an attribute of Krishna as advocating incessant altruistic 'Karma' i.e. dedicated action in His Bhagawad Geeta discourse.

Krishna Tradition of Syria

The term Syria is the Sanskrit word 'Suriya' i.e. a region of 'Sura' i.e. God. That God was Lord Krishna. All the Gods are referred to as 'Sura' in Vedic tradition. Therefore Krishna was a Sura. That is why his clan, the Yadavas (i.e.Judaists) when forced to leave their disturbed Dwarka homeland after the Mahabharat war migrated to Syria.

Christianity

It has already been explained in several contexts in this volume that the entire Christian tradition is Krishna tradition.

Chrisn in Russia

The Russian Siberia has a city name Krsnoyarak which still commemorates Lord Krishna.

Krishna in Japan

Japan's postal department has also issued a stamp depicting Lord Krishna playing the flute obviously because Chrisn used to be worshipped in ancient Hindu Japan too.

Krishna in Europe

Temples of Krishna abounded in Europe from Russia to Spain. A large mosaic of Lord Krishna playing the flute, standing under a tree, in his characteristic cross-legged pose, while grazing cows

hangs in the museum in Corinth. It is ignorantly captioned merely as 'A pastoral scene'. That has not been identified as of Lord Krishn though it should have been so identified. That lays bare the shortcomings of European archaeology. Krishna idols in various temples of Europe were known as Rhadamanthus, Hercules, Christ, Hiram, Hermes etc. Those are malpronunciations of Sanskrit names as explained earlier.

All such evidence proves that Krishna has been universally worshipped and consequently His Bhagawad Geeta has been universally studied and recited before the Bible and the Koran tried to supplant it.

Lord Krishna - the God of Jews

Though the Jews have lost contact with their guardian deity, Lord Krishna amidst their wanderings over several countries for over 5000 years it was Krishna who was their God. John M. Allegro observes "The corpus of Hebrew moral and religious legislation, set in a framework of ancient mythology, was endued with a mystic aura of sanctity. It was the very word of God, almost God himself together with the temple as the seat of the God fount of all interpretative inspiration. It formed the focus of worship and the directive power of post-exile Judaism."[9]

The idol in the Dome on the Rock temple of Jerusalem was that of Lord Krishna besides the rock itself representing Lord Shiva. Such Vedic temples have been traditionally very rich because they served as sacred reserves of national wealth constantly added to by a devout and philanthropic public so that it may not be squandered on vices. That wealth used to be the chief support of all essential services provided free by the State to its subjects. It was a kind of a national kitty kept growing in value because under the Vedic administration everybody was trained to lead an abstemious and disciplined life, constantly contributing his extra earnings to temple

(9) P.10, The Chosen People, by John M. Allegro, Granada Publishing Ltd., Park Street, St. Albans, Herts, 1973.

treasuries which were national reservoirs of wealth. Consequently during historical upheavals such temples became targets of enemy-action and the idol too got defaced or destroyed. Describing one such assault Allegro observes "When returning from a successful invasion of Egypt, Antiochus replenished his failing coffers en route by looting the Jerusalem temple to the extent even of stripping the gold leaf from its facade."[10]

On page 29 of the same book the author records "the names of the patriarchal heroes, as that of God himself are non-Semetic.....and go back to the earliest known civilization in the near East, indeed of the world."

That is a very important observation because it clearly states that the names of the Jewish deity were non-Semetic and that they emanated from the oldest civilization in the near East. Obviously that was the Vedic culture of India.

Thus Krishna as the 8th Vedic incarnation has been a universal deity. The universality of Krishna proves the universality of Vedic civilization. This realization should induce archaeologists to review their finds during the last few-centuries and rearrange them regionwise in a graded time-schedule to redraw the contours of the world Vedic civilization.

Bhagawad Geeta in Ancient Europe

Since ancient Europe practised Vedic culture all Sanskrit scriptures such as the Vedas, Upanishads, the Ramayan, Mahabharat, and also the Ayurved and architectural treatises used to be avidly studied and taught throughout Europe. We have adduced evidence about the study of the Vedas, Ramayan etc.elsewhere in this volume. Hereunder we would like to refer to the noting of an ancient Greek writer Hippolytus proving that the Bhagawad Geeta did form a part of the cultural and spiritual life of anicent Europeans.

According to Hippolytus, Basilides taught this (Haer VII. 14

(10) P. 20, Ibid.

Edinburgh translation) that "The Gospel came (says Basilides) first from the Sonship through the son that was seated beside the Archon, to the Archon, and the Archon learned that he was not god of the universe but was begotten. But he was above himself the deposited treasure of that ineffable and unnamable non-existent one, and of that sonship he was both converted and filled with terror, when he was brought to understand in what ignorance (he) was involved. This he says, is what has been declared, the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. For being orally instructed by Christ (i.e.Chrisn) who was seated near, he began to acquire wisdom (inasmuch as he thereby) learns who is the Non-existent One, what the sonship (is), and what the Holy Spirit (is), what the apparatus of the universe (is), and what is likely to be the consummation of things. This is the wisdom spoken in a mystery, concerning which (says Basilides) scripture uses the following expression. 'Not in words taught of human wisdom, but in (those) taught of the Spirit. The Archon then being orally instructed, and taught, and being (thereby) filled with fear, proceeded to make confession concerning the Sin which he had committed in magnifying himself, this, he says, is what he declared : "I have recognized my sin, and I know my transgression, and about this I shall confess forever." (The above extract is taken from pages 40 to 47 of Buddhist and Christian Gospels, by Albert J.Edmunds, the Yukwan Publishing House, Tokyo, 1905 A.D.)

Archon is Arjun. He was seated in a chariot beside Lord Chrisn who was driving it. It was then that Lord Chrisn delivered his famous sermon. Arjun confessed being mistaken. All this indicates that Geeta was not only studied in Europe but that all the so-called Christian jargon about Christ (i.e.Chrisn) being the son of God and about the so-called Sermon on the Mount - is nothing but mere and sheer proselytization of the Hindu Chrisn legend.

♦♦

Above are Mosul Spring Festival 1979, stamps issued by the Iraqi postal department. Though Iraq is currently a Muslim country it has unwittingly issued stamps of three denominations bearing Lord Krishna's portrait and (the one on top) depicting an octagonal Krishna temple which is currently misunderstood to be a mosque, viz. The Dome on the Rock.

This is a graphic instance of how, deep-rooted Vedic traditions continue to wield such powerful influence as to impel even a Muslim country to revive and reproduce designs which would be otherwise considered idolatrous.

The peacock-feathers on the head and the horizontal flute are typical of Lord Krishna. His association with the Spring Festival is also typical because even in India Krishna is associated with such frolic.

Baghdad, the capital of Iraq, also derives its name from Lord Krishna as Bhagwad Nagar abbreviated to Baghdad (The City of the God).

Such larger portraits of Lord Krishna are also displayed on the rear windows of some public buses in Baghdad.

The building on one stamp is also obviously an ancient venerated Krishna and Siva temple. It is what is currently known as the Dome on the Rock in Jerusalem.

All these details indicate that if and when the Arabs delve into their past they come across nothing but Vedic culture.

Researchers may take a cue from this to contact the artist who designed the postal stamp, to probe into the traditions which led him to the Krishna design. Below is that octagonal Vedic Temple.

Krishna re-surfacing through the hard-crust of Islam in the Muslim heartland, is indicative of powerful divine mysteries and miracles moulding human affairs.

This is a magnified photo of a Japanese postal stamp, depicting Lord Krishna playing the flute.

Such representations of Lord Krishna popping up in modern times in countries as far apart as Japan, Iraq and Greece, despite all of them currently professing non-Vedic religions, are indicative of their deep-rooted Vedic traditions reaching back into their pre-conversion days.

Legends of that divine flautist are also still part of the lore of many countries around the world.

A worldwide ancient Krishna-worship festival known as Chrisna-mas at which idols of the child-God Krishna received public homage, has been since hijacked by Christianity to masqurade as Christmas alias X'mas.

Modern Japanese people have been wrongly made to believe that the flautist is a deity attending on the Buddha. That is obviously wrong.

Eversince Buddhism overshadowed earlier Vedic deities the latter were misrepresented as subordinate attendants of the Buddha.

This mosaic is on display at the museum in Corinth (about 60 kms. from Athens) in Greece. It is ignoramically labelled as 'a pastoral scene', when the caption should have explained that it is Lord Krishna as a lad grazing cows and playing the flute in a cross-legged stance under a tree. This proves that before being forced to adopt Christianity Greece followed Vedic culture and worshipped Vedic deities such as Rama and Krishna. Greece also spoke Sanskrit using the Vedic term 'Iesus' (ईशस) for 'god'. Since later i and j were often mistaken for each other the term iesus came to be malpronounced as Jesus. Therefore the term Jesus Christ in fact signifies Iesus Chrisn. The Greek name Hercules is the garbled Sanskrit term Heri-cul-ish also signifying Lord Krishna. The twisted snakes forming the frame of the picture above is also a common Indian pattern because subduing a mighty multi-hooded cobra forms an important facet of Lord Krishna's life.

HINDU ORIGIN OF THE JEWS

The Jews alias Judaists alias Zionists are the Yedu people of the clan of Lord Krishna who had to migrate from the Dwarka kingdom after the Mahabharat war because life there became impossible as a result of nuclear explosions and anarchy.

Of the 22 tribes that left the region from time to time in quick succession ten which proceeded north met with disaster and perished.

Out of the remaining 12 a few families dropped off and settled down in regions currently known as Iraq, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Greece and Russia. That great exodus took place 5754 years ago. The Passover year which the Jews commemorate provides a tally of the period elapsed from the time they left India. By a curious irony of fate the Hindus worshippers of Lord Krishna, face as much hostility from the Muslims on the Indian sub-continent as their long-separated bretheren, the Jews face from the Arab Muslims surrounding Israel. One of their monarchs in West Asia was Solomon.

Pococke observes "That India was the point whence came the gold and the luxurious appliances of Solomon's court is clear. Both the length of the voyage, and the nature of the commerical imports, and the original land of the Phoenicians, establish this fact. It was a coasting voyage of three years."[1]

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(1) P.221, India in Grece, by E Pococke.

Pococke adds "When Judah did evil in the sight of the Lord, and built them high places, and images, and groves, on every high hill, and under every tree, the object was Bal; and the pillar was his symbol. It was on this altar they burned incense, and sacrificed the calf on the fifteenth day of the month, the sacred Amavas of the Hindus. The calf of Israel is the bull of Balesar or Iswar."[2] The Bal alias Balesar is Balkrishna alias Baleshwar i.e. the divine child, Krishna.

The name Solomon is a Sanskrit term. The great poet Kalidas describes King Dushyant as 'Shalmanav' i.e. a tall, hefty person with an impressive personality. The term Solomon is that Sanskrit word with its vowel 'a' rounded in pronunciation as 'o'.

Thd Golden Calf

The image of the golden calf that one often hears of in the history of the Jews was the calf, leaning against which Lord Krishna used to play the flute while grazing cows.

The reference to the golden calf that survives in Jewish history suggests that the idol in their temples was in fact that of Lord Krishna playing the flute leaning against the calf.

At that age Lord Krishna was tall enough to lean only against a calf and not a cow. Moreover, cows used to move around grazing while calves, yet sucking at the udders of their mothers, were not interested in grazing.

Why No Krishna Idols in Jewish Shrines?

Though all evidence suggests that the Judaists are all devotees of Lord Krishna why is it that Lord Krishna's idol is not set up or worshipped in Jewish temples? The reason is that when the Jews left India 5,754 years ago, as Hindus they worshipped a number of Vedic deities. When they left the Dwarka kingdom, members of each tribe worshipped different deities of their own preference as the Hindus often do.

(2) P. 224, Ibid.

Since they were now uprooted from their Dwarka homeland and were being scattered over a vast region they apprehended that if they continued to worship different idols their unity might crack and they would be divided into hostile clans. That is why, as a precaution, to maintain their unity during their wanderings they all decided to give up idol-worship altogether. It is, therefore, that Jewish shrines have no idols. Yet sentimentally Jews are not hostile to idol-worship unlike the Muslims. And it is therefore that their history is divided into parts referring to temples such as the History of the 1st Temple and the History of the 2nd Temple.

Hebrew

The language of the Jews is known as Hebrew. Encyclopaedia Judaica offers only a partial explanation. It says that the first syllable 'He' is an abbreviation of the divine name. The Encyclopaedia is uncannily right but it fails to elaborate what that whole divine name is. Obviously that divine name is Heri, a synonym of Krishna.

The Encyclopaedia also fails to explain the other syllable 'brew'. That is a Sanskrit term signifying 'speech'. Consequently, the term Hebrew signifies the language which Lord Heri i.e. Krishna spoke. It is well known that Krishna spoke Sanskrit because Lord Krishna's words are recorded in numerous ancient Sanskrit scriptures in India.

But since the Jews i.e. the Yedu tribes of Lord Krishna left the Dwarka region, the original Sanskrit that they spoke during Lord Krishna's time has undergone considerable change of pronunciation and admixture of words so that what was Sanskrit 5,754 years ago is now Hebrew.

The Jewish Emblem

The so-called David's Star which is the emblen of the Jews is a Tantric Vedic symbol. It consists of two interlocked triangles, with the apex of one facing north and the other the south. This symbol is drawn in front of every orthodox Hindu home in stone-powder-design every morning after the house

is washed. The figure is often a part of the holy Rangoli designs sketched at the entrance to Hindu homes. Even its name David is the Sanskrit word (देवी-द) Devi-d i.e. 'bestowed by the Mother Goddess'. The so-called Humayun Tomb building in New-Delhi which was a Vedic goddess Lakshmi temple is inlaid with those emblems on the exterior upper portion of its walls.

The Chosen People

The Jews call themselves the chosen people of God. This tradition arises from the fact that they belong to the Yedu clan of Lord Krishna. As such they were known as Yadavas. Since 'Y' changes to 'J' in popular pronunciation the term Yadavas changed to Jadavas and thence to Judaists. India has variations of that name aplenty amongst its people in the forms of surnames like Yadav, Jadhav and Jadeja

The Promised Land

The promised land of the Jews was Canaan because Lord Krishna was known as Kanha. His land was consequently known as Canaan.

Zionism

Zionism is the Sanskrit word Devanism meaning the cult of God or the divine group. Sanskrit 'D' often gets transformed as 'Z' leading to Devanism being pronounced as Zionism.

The Birth-story of Moses

The birth-story of Moses is identical with that of Lord Krishna. Even the term Moses is the Sanskrit word Mahesh meaning the Great Lord i.e.Krishna.

The Old Testament Prophecy

The Old Testament prophecy of God reincarnating Himself from time to time to save the virtuous and punish the wicked is echoed from the pronouncement of Lord Krishna in his Bhagawad Geeta discourse that He has to reincarnate Himself in every era.

The Talmud

The old scripture of the Jew laws and legends bears the Sanskrit

name Talmud. 'Tal' signifies the palm and 'Mud' (alias Mudra) is the imprint i.e. the script written on it. Therefore, Talmud signifies a palm-leaf manuscript. The name signifies ancient Vedic scriptures written on palm-leaves. The Jews obviously carried such Sanskrit manuscripts, whichever were at hand, when they left their homes after the missile havoc in the Dwarka region.

The Vision

The vision of the Lord amidst a column of smoke and fire which Moses saw in the desert, is obviously the special vision of divinity in a gigantic form which Lord Krishna arranged for Arjun to witness at Kurukshetra, as described in the Bhagawad Geeta.

Galilee

The term Galilee is the Sanskrit term Gawalaya i.e. the sanctuary of cows belonging to Nand in whose farmstead Krishna was nurtured to adulthood. Similarly Nazareth is Nandrath (i.e. Nand's chariot) and Bethlehem is Vatsaldham, meaning the home of the Darling Child.

Eastern Hill

The Jerusalem octagonal Krishna and Shiva temple (currently known as the Dome on the Rock and being used as a mosque) is built on the eastern hill because the east is invariably preferred in Vedic tradition. The octagon is also a shape of Vedic preference and sanction.

Arranged Marriages

The Jews traditionally prefer and respect arranged marriages because under age-old Vedic tradition, it is the responsibility of the experienced elders to fix up a suitable match for their ward.

Marriage Pandals

The Jews also erect special pandals for a wedding. Such pandals are considered sacred and blissful. This is a Vedic custom.

Deepawali

The Jews have a festival of lights too namely the Deepawali as do the Hindus.

Worshipping Trees

The Jews have a tradition of regarding plants as divine and worshipping them. Thus the Jews too adore as sacred, plants like the Tulsi (Basil) and trees like Peepul and Banyan as do the Hindus. Thus Sanskrit-Vedic tradition is capable of explaining every aspect of Jewish life.

Jewish Reference to Vedas

A footnote in the book of Marco Polo's travelogue records "Much has been written about the ancient settlement of Jews Kaifungfu (in China). One of the most interesting papers on the subject is in Chinese Repository, Vol. XX. It gives the translation of a Chinese Jewish inscription....Here is a passage 'with respect to the Israelite religion we find on inquiry that its first ancestor, Adam came originally from India and that during the (period of the) Chau state the sacred writings were already in existence. The sacred writings embodying eternal reason consist of 53 sections. The principles therein contained are very abstruse and the Eternal Reason therein revealed is very mysterious, being treated with the same veneration as Heaven. The founder of the religion is Abraham, who is considered the first teacher of it. Then came Moses, who established the law, and handed down the Sacred Writings. After his time this religion entered China."[3]

The reference to the Sacred Writings handed down from Abraham and treated with the same veneration as Heaven clearly implies the Vedas because according to tradition the Vedas were made available by Brahma, spelled as Abraham in the West.

The footnote also records that the Jews originate from India.

(3) P.346, Footnote, Vol. I, Marco Polo's Travels, translated and edited by Sir Henry Yule.

Obviously, therefore, the Jews regarded the Vedas with the highest veneration. The name Adam is the Sanskrit word "aadim" (i.e.the first or ancientmost (man). The Islamic word 'aadmi' (i.e.man) is of the same Sanskrit vintage, signifying a descendant of Aadim i.e. Brahma. In the Vedic tradition appeared Moses alias Mahesh (i.e. the great incarnation). Lord Krishna who again expounded the Vedic doctrine (through His Bhagawad Geeta discourse) is well known. Both Islamic tradition (as pointeed out elsewhere in this volume) and the Jewish belief quoted above acknowledge that India has been the source and the headquarters of worldwide Vedic culture. The footnote quoted above also incidentally asserts that China too followed the same Vedic culture.

That Syria is named Sura (i.e. divine) country of Lord Krishna alias Hari and that the Jews also belong to Lord Krishna's clan is apparent from Encyclopaedia Judaica which notes that ".......Erez Israel and (central-southern) Syria were referred to as Hurru chiefly as an ethnic term after the Horites who inhabited the country."[4]

The Jews are known as Horites because the leader of their community was Hari alias Lord Krishna. He was a 'Sur' i.e. God. Therefore the term 'Suria' alias Syria was the land of God Krishna. Since Syria was the land of Lord Krishna that was the region to which the Jews headed after they left the Dwarka kingdom when the Mahabharat war ended and the Dwarka region was ravaged by nuclear explosions and anti-social elements.

Jerusalem - the City of Krishna

Jerusalem the chief city of the Israeli community is appropriately named after Lord Krishna. The original name of that city is Yerusaleim. In popular parlance 'J' often replaces 'Y'. Therefore Yerusaleim came to be pronounced as Jerusalem. The term Yerusaleim is the Sanskrit term Yedu-Ishalayam (यदुईशालयम्) meaning the temple (and township) of Lord Krishna.The term Yedu-Ishalayam came to be spelled as 'Yeru Ishalayam' because the Sanskrit 'd'

(4) Page 108, Vol. 9, Encyclopaedia Judaica, Keter Publishing Co. Jerusalem.

is replaced by 'r' in the West for instance; the Indian word 'nadi' is spelled as 'sari'. The township got the name Yeduishalayam because it sprung up around the Dome on the Rock, the octagonal temple of Lord Krishna (currently being occupied and used as a mosque by Muslims.)

Lions And Lotuses

Another supporting proof is that the city of Jerusalem has a Lion's gate having lion statues. The Krishna temple at Jagannath-puri in India, also has a Lion's gate. Raising such statues is against Islamic tenets because the Koran expressly prohibits making the likeness of any living being. Therefore, the traditional version that Sultan Sulaiman commissioned them "to propitiate his dream that he would be devoured by lions unless he built a wall around Jerusalem" is too childish to be believed. As a Muslim, Sulaiman would never dare or care to set up lion-statues. Floating such frivolous canards to explain away inconvenient details is yet another snare of Islamic writings, which researchers must guard against. Lions are always associated with the sovereign in Vedic tradition. Also embossed on that same gateway along with the lions are lotus discs which are a typical Vedic emblem. A photo of that gate of Jerusalem with lions and lotus emblems appears on page 1432, Vol. 9 of Encyclopaedia Judaica.

Dr. Lancaster Hardings, an Englishman who has been head of the Archaeology Department of Jordan for over 20 years has in his research papers described how the Indian Hindu king Vasumitra Shunga ruled over the whole of the Arab region including Iraq, Palestine and Jerusalem. His empire extended upto the Caspian Sea. The temples in that region had Brahmin priests The Shunga dynasty rule in that region lasted from the 2nd century B.C. to '6 A.D.

◆◆

VEDIC CULTURE IN THE EAST

Currently the terms Oriental and Occidental are used almost as antonyms like the words Arya and Dravid. Any rivalry or mutual exclusion fancied within each of those pairs, constitutes one of the serious flaws of modern historical thinking, which needs to be rectified.

At present Occidental culture is equated with Christianity while Oriental culture is believed to be a conglomerate of several faiths, somehow confined securely to the east of Suez as though prevented by some Christian miracle from 'contaminating' Europe.

A major thrust of this volume is aimed at correcting that historical squint. Vedic culture pervaded the West as much as it did (or even now does) pervade the East.

Let it first be clearly understood that Oriental culture means Vedic culture as represented by the Vedas, Upanishads, the Ramayan, Mahabharat and Sanskrit language.

It may be noted that the very terms East and West in a spherical earth can apply only when a point of reference is first fixed. What is that point? And which were the people who fixed it? Obviously it was the people of India who first demarcated the east and west with reference to themselves.

Indians considered themselves to be in the forefront of the east because they always looked forward to the rising Sun as the

harbinger of a bright, hopeful day. Consequently, China and Japan lay to the far east of India. Since Persia and Turkey for long formed a part of Vedic India, they were a part of the East. The rest was all West. It is that ancient Vedic demarcation which the world still follows in identifying the East from the West. This is one indication of Indian Vedic civilization being the ancientmost. In our own times the USA is a militarily and technologically strong, advanced nation and China and Japan are nearer at its west, yet the Indian, Hindu, Vedic tradition compels them to look upon China and Japan as far-eastern countries. Such clues though very valuable have generally been lost sight of. As far as the prevalence of Vedic culture in China and Japan we have dealt with that in separate chapters. Therefore, in this chapter we shall concentrate mainly on the other regions of the East.

In indochina all the three kingdoms Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia used to be Hindu. In Cambodia is Angkor Wat an extensive and spectacular Hindu capital. Its massive and majestic ruins of exquisitely carved temples, palaces and statuary, spread over 100 sq.kms. constitute an enchanting sight. Along its wall may be seen towering and massive statues of the Vedic trinity. The Indian inspiration and craftmanship of the gigantic sculptures there help us to inquire as to where in India could there be sculptures of that size and embellishment? Obviously, there are practically none. Why? Because Muslim invaders destroyed them. Which are then the locations where such towering sculptures existed? One is the Konark temple in Orissa. Another is Mahabalipuram. Thus India's destroyed history can be reconstructed with clues that have survived outside India. This is also a new way of handling research which has generally been ignored. Thus throughout this volume numerous such novel observations about research methodology will suggest the improvements called for in current methods.

In India, the so-called Kutub Tower in Delhi is one such location. Underneath it lay a giant statue of Lord Vishnu reclining on a huge cobra. At the top of the tower on the 7th storey under a dome squatted Brahma on a lotus seat. The Muslims destroyed

those two top and bottom divine statues.

Numerous Sanskrit inscriptions of the Hindu kings who ruled the Indochina region are on display in local museums. The term Angkor Wat suggests a bower of banyan trees.

The neighbouring kingdom is Laos. That is a French spelling of the original word Lava. That was the name of one of the twin sons of Rama. This is one clue to the great impact that the Ramayan had outside India indicating that the Ramayanic developments were historic happenings having repercussions all over the world.

The capital of Lao alias Lava is Vientianne. That again is the French spelling coined during French rule there in the 19th century. The original Sanskrit name of the city was Vana Chandan signifying that the surrounding region was planted with Sandal trees.

River Ganga

The chief river of the region is Mekong which is a local pronunciation of the Sanskrit term Ma-Ganga i.e. Mother Ganga. In India too Ganga is endearingly called Ganga Maiya i.e. Mother Ganga. Such Sanskrit names scattered throughout the globe are a pointer to the universal geographical survey and administration of Vedic Kshatriyas. The Hindu kings who ruled this region bore names such as Jaya Varma and Surya Varma. Numerous inscriptions besides the magnificent edifices they built testify to earlier Hindu rule. Since the French ruled that region in 19th and 20th centuries, French scholars have written books on the Hindu history of and archaeological relics in Indochina.

One of the regions adjoining the ancient Hindu capital, Angkor Wat bore its ancient Sanskrit name Aranya Pradesh i.e. forest-tract, even under French rule. Such a forest was maintained close to every Hindu city under the ancient Vedic system to ensure rainfall, prevent erosion, provide fuel, timber, herbal remedies, a green belt to purify the air, to shelter wild animals for ecological balance and also for hunting practice.

Thailand

To the west of Cambodia is Siam alias Thailand. Its language is almost totally Sanskrit though all pronunciation has acquired the Chinese twang. The Siamese continue the tradition of remembering Rama as the ideal monarch by naming every sovereign of theirs as Rama. Currently it is the 9th Rama ruling. Even their traditional capital is named Ayodhya. But eversince that ancient capital was ravaged during a Burmese invasion the Siamese have made Bangkok their working capital.

The royal priest of Siam is a Vedist Brahmin. The sovereign's coronation and other rituals are performed according to Vedic tradition.

Though the Vedic deity in the central royal temple in Bangkok is now an Emerald Buddha yet on the inner surface of the wall enclosing the spacious temple-yard are painted Ramayanic episodes, indicating that before Buddha the deity in the temple was Rama.

All temples in Siam bear Sanskrit names such as Wat Arun and Wat Dev Sri Indra alias Sirindra. The name of hotels and photo studios and other establishments are all Sanskritized. For instance, Suttha Bhojan Hotel is a Sanskrit term which connotes a hotel serving pure (unadulterated) food. Photographers call themselves Chhaya Chittakans when the actual Sanskrit term is Chhaya Chitrakar.

The Chulalankorn University is Chudalankaran in Sanskrit. Motor cars and bicycles are known as Rotchakjon and Rotjon respectively which are Sanskrit terms-Rath Chakra Yantra and Rath Yantra.

The common Siamese greeting is 'Sabaddi' which is Swasti in Sanskrit implying ''all is well' or 'all be well'. The eagle is a Siamese royal emblem. The Sanskrit word for the eagle is 'Garud'. The Siamese pronounce it as 'Krut'. A vehical is known as Rath. The standard greeting is Namaskar.

The Siamese royal capital bears a long-winded title like the sovereign himself in the good old Vedic tradition such as ''A city of angels, great city of immortals, magnificent jewelled city of the God Indra, seat of the king of Ayodhya, city of gleaming temples, city of the king's most excellent palace and dominions, home of Vishnu and all the Gods.''

The aim of all these titles was to remind everybody of the ideals of sanctity, cleanliness, and majesty of the sovereign power.

Malaysia

Adjoining Siam to the south is the ancient Malay region currently known as Malaysia. Malaya too was famous for its fragrant sandalwood-forests. Malayan cities still bear their ancient Sanskrit names in numerous instances. The term Cholanampuram i.e. a city of the Chola (Hindu) kings is currently spelled as Kuala Lumpur. Sungai Pattani was Shringapattan i.e. a hill-town. Seramban was Sri Ram Van (श्री राम बन) and Petaling Jaya is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit term Sphatikalinga Jayan (स्फटिकलिंग जायन) signifying a big crystal Shivling. Malayan sovereigns (and a majority of the populace too) though converted to Islam bear their ancient Hindu titles calling themselves Rama Hussein or Lakshman Hussein. The so-called Sultan of Johore Bahru used to call himself the Maharaja of Johore Bahru. Royal women though bearing Muslim names attach Sanskrit Vedic titles such as Putri Mahadevi (i.e.the royal daughter, the great queen alias goddess).

True to its name a large Shiva temple was actually discovered in the centre of the old town of Petaling Jaya.

Royal palaces in Malaya still bear their Sanskrit name Aasthana (आस्थान). The crown prince is known as Tunku Mukut which is the Sanskrit term 'Tok Mukut' (तोक मुकुट) signifying a child wearing a crown. A royal princess of Malaya of the 20th century bore the Sanskrit name Vidyadhari i.e. 'the learned one'.

In Malaysia people use the Sanskrit term 'bhoomiputra'' to signify sons of the soil. The rulers though converted to Islam are referred to in the Sanskrit style as ''Param Shree''.

A coastal city Malakka gets its name from the Vedic deity Mallikarjun whose temple used to be the main attraction of that

place.

Singapore

To the south of Malaysia across a narrow strip of sea is the famous ancient Vedic city of Singapore alias Simhapur, the City of Lions. It was an important port controlling the trade and military sea-routes of the Vedic administration from the Americas to Australia.

When Sir Stamford Raffles, a British explorer landed there towards the close of the 15th century, he noticed an Hindu fort on the hillock close to the sea, bearing a Sanskrit inscription of King Parameswara.

A book titled Glimpses of Malayan History written by the late Brahmachari Kailasam alias Swami Satyanand contains interesting details of the traces of the ancient Vedic culture of the Malayan peninsula.

Indonesia

Across the straits is the island of Sumatra. To its east is another big island, Java and close to it further east is the tiny island of Bali. The Balinese population still conducts its life in the ageold Vedic tradition. The people maintain the four-guild system. The priests are known as Pandada i.e. pundits. They observe all the ancient Vedic rituals wearing their scanty, rustic colourful apparel and adorning themselves with flowers.

In Java on the outskrits of the capital Jogjakarta is a famous stupendous ancient Hindu temple-complex known as Borobidur, rising in majestic tiers lined with hundreds of statues of the Buddha, imparting an aura of serene spirituality to the surroundings. Though the people of Indonesia have long been converted to Islam, they still retain their Vedic culture.

The Taj Mahal alias Tejo Mahalaya in India, the Angkor Wat royal monumental city in Cambodia and the Borobidur temple in Java still stand out as a distinguished Trinity of world-famous

Hindu monuments.

At Prambanan in Java under the starry skies large ballet-groups perform the Ramelila with colourful costumes.

The language of Indonesians is known as Bhasha which is a Sanskrit term. Consequently their language is a dialect of Sanskrit.

The large island of Borneo is mostly covered with forests and is sparsely populated. But its dense forests hide ruins of ancient Vedic settlements. A part of Borneo known as Sarawak had a Britisher as a sovereign before World War II. But his title was 'Raja' indicating that his predecessors were Sanskrit-speaking Hindu rulers.

Burma

Burma is an abbreviation of the ancient Sanskrit name Brahmadesh i.e. the region of Brahma, the creator. The names of its river Irrawati, Brahmaputra and Chindwin (from Chintanvan i.e. a region of bowers or forests for meditative seclusion) are all Sanskrit names. Its cities such as Rangoon, Prome, Mandalay, Meiktila (i.e. Mithila) and the ancient Prangan, the city of exquisite temples all remind one of the Vedic past of Burma. Its head of state is known as Adipadi which is the Sanskrit word Adhipati (अधिपति) implying the chief executive. The Burmese celebrate the water-festival with great gusto as in India, towards the end of winter.

Before turning Buddhist like most other far-eastern countries Burma was a full-fledged Hindu country.

Regions named Indonesia, Indochina, East Indies and West Indies indicate that they professed the same culture as India. Had that not been so the name 'Indo' would not have remained attached to them.

The Straits of Sunda to the north of Australia are mentioned in the Ramayan in the context of the aerial reconnaissance undertaken to locate Ravan's hideout. At that remote period, over a million years ago there was nothing but Vedic culture in the entire world.

The Philippines

The Philippines is a region which needs to be properly studied to record traces of its long extinct Vedic culture. Having been suffused with Islam and Christianity, like Europe the motivation for delving into the Vedic past of the Philippines seems to have been killed in that country. But since Vedic culture reigned supreme in all countries to the north, south, east and west of India, such a big land mass as the Philippines with its salubrious climate couldn't have been left out by Vedic apostles from India. Elsewhere in this volume we have described traces of the Ramayan in ancient Philippines. In the Philippines the Vice Chancellor is called "Guro" i.e. Guru. Outside its Parliament house is also a statue of Manu who was humanity's first Vedic law-giver.

Australia

Ancient Indian ships cruised all the seven seas as is evident from terms like 'navy' (which is a Sanskrit term) and Indian Ocean (from South America to Australia) and the various land-masses incorporating the name India. The name India has been so famous through the ages as to get its context stretched across time and distance to Red Indians and Indianapolis, for instance.

Archaeological evidence of ancient India's distant sailing schedules is available in the form of a naval bell with a Tamil inscription fished out from the sea off the Australian coast.

Australia itself is the Sanskrit term 'Astralaya' (अस्त्रालय) i.e. a land of missiles. That name suggests that in ancient times numerous missiles were tried out in Australia. It could be that Australia is a desert because of those ancient nuclear explosions. If modern scientists have a way to ascertain whether ancient Australia was subject to nuclear explosions, and if so, how long ago, that would be a significant contribution to research in ancient history.

The origin of place-names such as Brisbane and Sydney also needs to be probed into. It is possible that like the name of the continent itself they too are of Sanskrit origin.

Australia's native population is of south-Indian origin and so is their language. They are known to wear the sacred Hindu, Vedic mark (Tilak) on their forehead. There exists a close similarity between the Tamil language and the language of Australian natives.

Instead of looking upon the aboriginal residents of Australia as a host-community Christian settlers from Europe have tended to shun and abhor them and have generally refused to inquire into their antecedents. Deprecating this tendency a kindly European lady has observed "To rank the Australian native as a moron and gorilla man is to do him a very grave injustice. Deceived by a physiognomy sullen in repose, the protruding chin and the receding forehead of the ape, and those long tenuous fingers that are peculiarly helpless with the tools of our modern civilization, the earlier ethnologists were hasty in their judgments. To look closer and with kindlier eyes is to discover that the aboriginal is redeemed by the delicate, sensitive ear of the true musician, quiet, quick laughter of a very real sense of humour, left far behind in the race of ages, marooned on an island-continent of sunny climate he never bothered to build himself a house because he did not need it."[1]

The Law of Fluctuating Fortunes

Taking an overall view of the history of continents and communities from the most ancient times, it seems possible to formulate a general law with respect to their fluctuating fortunes. We may conclude that their life too is subject to the same ups and downs as that of an individual. Just as a new born child grows up from its state of ignorance and helplessness into an up and doing adult but again sinks into old age and decay, to vanish altogether from the earth at a later date, *regions and communities too emerge from isolation and backwardness into the limelight of great achievements and then again lapse into oblivion and total extinction.* Just as an individual's life is made up of periods of dejection,

(1) Article in the 1942 August issue of **Modern Review** magazine quoted the above passage from the book titled **Great Australian Loneliness** by Miss Ernestine Hill.

misfortune, glory, achievement or boredome, every community and region too has its good and bad days. Regions which are now under the sea or are covered-over with forests and mountains have been the staging-grounds of great human activity. Communities which appear to be sunk in aboriginal backwardness and ignorance today may have been sometime in the remote past at the very apex of military might and scientific advancement.

If, therefore, in our own time we see particular communities to be very backward or very much advanced it would be proper to regard it as but a temporary phase and not an eternal role. The divine, metaphysical law of fluctuating fortunes applies to all. This has been enunciated by Lord Krishna in the Bhagawad Geeta.

Even Christianity and Islam are but passing religions subject to set-backs and decay. Islamic tradition has rightly predicted such an eventuality and foretold its own doom after a span of 1400 years from Mohamad which end in 2022 A. D.

Those looking at history from the mundane plane can never see very far. Their sight being unable to see beyond their own times, they conclude that the socio-economic, and political realities of their time are everlasting. A schoolboy has the same view. He takes his parents and his sugar candies and chocolates for granted. Only when he advances in age and reviews his life from his deathbed does he realize how his life has been a chequered, slippery and ephemeral panorama. Historians developing a mature outlook and casting a glance at life on earth from a detached eminence of time and distance, to have an overall view of life through the ages, would not fail to visualize that the aborigines of our own times may be the super-annuated heroes of a past age as vigorous adults have their own decrepit, tottering and paralysed elders. *However mysterious, miraculous and metaphysical this law may appear in the context of petty narratives about particular personalities or dynasties it is a higher, divine law of global or cosmic dimensions* which may be seen to operate in the wider perspective of world history.

An Australian aborigine. (This photo appeared earlier on page 55 of The Manual of Geography and page 185 of Long Missing Links) Notice the sacred Vedic sandal-paste mark on the forehead. Australia is the Sanskrit term 'Astralaya' meaning 'a land of missiles'. It was reduced to a desert because ancient nuclear missiles were tried-out there in distant seclusion from other continents. Physicists may verify this if they have tests to determine remote, ancient nuclear contamination. A naval bell bearing a Tamil inscription was also found in the sea off the Australian coast indicating ancient links with India, the homeland and headquarters of worldwide Vedic culture. The language of the ancient people of Australia resembles Tamil while Tamil is itself a kin of Vedic Sanskrit.

Australian aborgines believe that the soul of a dead man awaits its turn like a player to be called back to play a role in some other body as man, beast or plant. This is a philosophic relic of their forgotten Vedic past.

Ancient Libraries

One of the causes of the loss of previous global historical links was the destruction of huge libraries and famous educational centres by rapacious invaders. The great library of Pisistratus in Athens was burnt down in the 6th century B.C. Only Homer's epics escaped destruction. The library attached to the Temple of Ptah, the Divine Lord in Memphis, which had a rare collection of palm-leaf manuscripts, has long been lost to the world. The precious libraries and educational centres that Hindu Vedic Sanskrit scholars had set up not only in India but at important centres throughout the world were all ravaged and plundered from time to time after the breakdown of the world Vedic administration. In Asia Minor the library at Peragmus had a collection of two hundred thousand texts which have been lost without a trace. Roman invaders put to the torch a library of 500,000 manuscripts in Carthage in 146 B.C. It kept burning for 17 days. During Julius Caesar's invasion of Egypt the collection of 700,000 manuscripts in Alexandria was destroyed. That library contained 120 volumes of the names and brief biographies of hundreds of authors. Alexandria was one of the biggest centres of Vedic, Sanskrit learning of the ancient world, providing for the education of 1400 students at a time.

Autun in France was the seat of the Bibractis Druid College. It had a library of thousands of manuscripts which was destroyed by Roman troops.

In China at the orders of emperor Tsin-She Hwangeti, a collection of thousands of ancient manuscripts was consigned to fire.

Leo Isarus burned down a library of 300,000 volumes in Istanbul.

These are only a few stray sample locations but how many hundreds of thoussands of other volumes may have been plundered, trampled, torn and burned down throughout the world during over a thousand years of Muslim and Christian invasions may well be imagined.

A Turkish Sultan's harem was once on fire. A secretary of the local French embassy was caught in the melee. People were running for their lives helter skelter grabbing anything that came to their hands. In the lurid light and smoke of the crackling fire, one of those escaping cast a glance at the title of a big volume that had come to his hand. It was a History of Rome by Titus Livius. Even in those times that history had become a rare volume. Many had only heard about it but had never been able to read it. The French embassy secretary persuaded the Muslim looter to hand him that history volume. The Muslim haggled for a high price. Even that the Frenchman agreed to but since he didn't have that much money on his person at that moment, he offered to remit the money the next day. But before he could ask for the looter's address they were separated and never met again. And that volume was forever lost.

Perhaps Titus Livius's history of Rome contained valuable details of Rome's Vedic past. The name of the author Titus Livius is itself Sanskrit (दैत्य लवईश) Daityas Lava-ish.

About 150 years ago a Freenchman, Champollion casually inquired about the relevance of a heap of torn papers kept in a box in the store-room of the museum at Turin. The keeper replied that they were unimportant waste. Out of curiosity Champollion tried to match those bits and to his surprise he found that they were precious genealogies of ancient Egyptian sovereigns.

Contrarily, in the year 1549 when Diego de Landa, a Christian missionary discovered an ancient palm-leaf manuscript in Mexico he set fire to it arguing that nothing heathen deserved to be retained. In his later years when he happened to be appointed a bishop, on sober reflection it occurred to him that in burning the manuscript he had deprived posterity of precious knowledge. But his repentance notwithstanding that manuscript has been a dead loss. This is only

a typical instance of how Christians and Muslims have in a thousand-year-long fanatic orgy, burned heaps and heaps of repositories of precious ancient knowledge throughout the world. The usual belief that ancient literature was only devotional, religious, spiritual and metaphysical is unwarranted. It covered every sphere of human activity. Such colossal destruction by human agencies may also be one of divinity's modes of setting back the clock of human progress to make it play the game of life once again from the beginning

It is through such ups and downs and gaps in historical continuity created by destructive spasms that a historian has to search for conceptual links in his historical narrative. In doing that his historical acumen, investigative skill and analogical logic play a vital part.

For example, 2500 years ago the Greek astronomer Democritus concluded (presumably without a telescope) that the Milky Way was a close formation of countless heavenly bodies. Fergusson came to the same conclusion after scanning the skies with a telescope in the 18th century A.D. This illustrates how the reach and sweep of the divine intelligence of gifted individuals is superior to the sharpest instruments made from inert metal.

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The details mentioned above about the destruction of ancient libraries etc. are culled from pages 20-22 of the paperback titled, We are Not the First, by Tom Andrews.

THE VEDIC PAST OF JAPAN

Like many other countries the Japanese trace their history for a stretch of 2,500 years back from today and then draw a blank. This worldwide historic phenomenon leads to a very important historical conclusion namely that before that period all regions being part of the global Vedic civilization had not developed any separate identity. The fragmentation began much after the Mahabharat war (5561 B.C). Therefore, the history of any people and any region fades out beyond a back-stretch of 2,500 to 3,000 years.

Nippon

The Japanese call their own country Nippon which is the Sanskrit word Nipun meaning 'dexterious'.

Hirohito

The Japanese sovereign is known as Hirohito which has two Sanskrit derivations, both equally applicable and closely allied in meaning.

In Sanskrit (सुर-सुत) 'Sura-Suta' signifies 'the Son of God'. By the rule of 'S' being pronounced as 'H' the term 'Sura-Suta' is being pronounced as Hiro Hito'. In Vedic tradition the king wields temporal authority on earth as the representative of Lord Vishnu in the heaven. That is why we find royalty all over the ancient world, whether in China, Rome, Egypt or England being invested with divine awe and resepct by the subjects. This is one very telling proof of the existence of Vedic culture all over the ancient world.

The other Sanskrit term of which 'Hirohito' is a corruption, is (सूर्य सुत) 'Surya-Suta' i.e. a descendant of the Sun.

This finds confirmation in the fact that Japanese indeed do regard their emperor to be a descendant of the Sun-goddess.

Correspondingly even in Vedic tradition Manu, the first ruler of global humanity was known as Vaivasvat i.e. son of the Sun. That shows how the Japanese royal tradition is Vedic.

Being considered a descendant of the lustrous Sun no ordinary human is permitted by orthodox Japanese tradition to look the Emperor in the face. Even the Prime Minister calling on the emperor for consultation, advice or directions has to conduct the conversation with his gaze fixed on the ground. Such immense reverence ensures dutiful and meticulous compliance of the emperor's directives.

Alphabet

Though the Japanese generally use the Chinese ideograph system of writing they have also supplemented it with a limited phonetic Katakana script based on the Sanskrit alphabet. That again indicates the Vedic tradition of the Japanese.

Language

Like the Chinese the Japanese language may sound different because of its peculiar pronunciation but that must not mislead scholars in tracing the Sanskrit origin of its words.

The Japanese suffix 'San' is the equivalent of 'Mr.' in English. But while the term 'Mr.' precedes a name the Japanese honorific 'San' is affixed after the name. That is exactly the system in India where honorifics like 'Sahib or Rai, Rao, Mahashay, Mahodaya and Mahabhag' are all used after the name.

The term 'San' is the Sanskrit term 'Sant' implying a good, kind, helpful, decent, well-behaved, cultured person.

It is that same practice which persists in names like Sorensen and Ammundsen or as Jacobson and Thomson.

The Japanese use the word 'Ka' to denote a question as in So-des-Ka?' (i.e. Is that so?) That is according to the Sanskrit system. The Sanskrit interrogative 'Kim'? has been abbreviated as 'Ka' in Japanese.

The Japanese term 'Oji' for 'grandfather' derives from Lord Rama's grandfather 'Aja'. Even in Marathi (a regional language in India) 'Aja' signifies a 'grandfather'. Japanese call their language 'Nihango' where the termination 'go' is the Sanskrit root for 'language'. Nippon go is pronounced Nihango.

Thus the Japanese tradition will, on proper investigation, be found to be Sanskritic and Vedic.

The Rising Sun Flag

Japan's flag is a red circle in the centre of a white rectangle. That is because Japan is located on India's eastern horizon. Since the Vedic world identified the horizon of the rising sun i.e. the east as the starting point Japan's 'rising sun' flag is also of Vedic origin. It represents the red rising Sun.

Shintoism

It is usually believed that Buddhism is Japan's religion. Japan's hoary, primary culture is in fact Shintoism which is a malpronunciation of Sindhuism alias Hinduism. Buddhism is a mere later phase of Hinduism.

Temples

Japan has thousands of temples of Vedic deities but they are not easily known to the outside world because of their distorted names. For instance, the Chinese and Japanese pay homage to Lord Ganesh but call him Kangijen. That is why the world outside is oblivious of it.

The Japanese worship goddess Durga as 'Kariteimo'' and make

offerings to her of pomegranate juice instead of the traditional blood of goats. The Sanskrit name 'Kali-devima' gets transformed into Japanese as 'Kariteimo'. That should serve as a key to understand how Japanese language is camouflaged Sanskrit.

The Krishna Postal Stamp

The Japanese postal department has issued a stamp depicting Lord Krishna playing the flute. This indicates that from the Mahabharat times onward the Japanese too revered Krishna like the rest of the world. The mistaken over-importance given to the Buddha has overshadowed the ancient Shintoism alias Hinduism of Japan.

A Japanese writer, Taka Kasu (in an article titled '**What Japan owes to India**' in the journal of the Indo-Japanese Association, of January 1910) and another writer, the Rev. Daito Shimaji (in another article titled- **India and Japan in Ancient Times**, in the same issue) inform us that 'there were, for instance, several Indians, whom the Kuroshivo current washing almost the whole Southern coast, brought to the Japanese shore.......Several Indians came to Japan, especially in view of so many Indians finding their way to China by sea. A Brahmin bishop came with another priest from India via Champa (Kochin China) to Osaka, then to Nara where they met another Indian ascetic who taught Sanskrit to the Japanese. His monastery and tombstone with a written eulogy still exist at Nara. The official records of Japan describe how cotton was introduced in Japan by two Indians who reached Japan in July 799 and April 800 A.D.

The names and visits referred to above may be the umpteenth. We deprecate the tendency of historians to talk only of Hindu, Vedic or Indian influence on other countries and trace it to a few years before Christ or some years after Christ. What we wish to emphasize here is that in keeping with the divine direction (कृण्वंतो विश्वमार्यं) to spread Vedic culture throughout the world the first few generations of sages had spread Vedic culture through the medium of Sanskrit to all lands all over the globe. Consequently every region

of the world including China and Japan have been speaking Sanskrit and living according to Vedic tenets for millions of years. It is only lately that they have taken to different languages and a seemingly different cult which they call Buddhism.

Mush Mushy

When a Japanese uses the telephone he calls out 'Mush Mushy' instead of 'Hullo'. That exclamation 'Mush Mushy' is based on the Sanskrit term 'Mahashaya' (the equivalent of 'Mister'). It may be recalled that in the Bengal region of India the Sanskrit honorific 'Mahashaya' is pronounced as 'Moshaya'. Japan being still further away to the east it pronounces the term 'Moshaya......Moshaya' as 'Mush Mushy'.

Funeral Rites

The Japanese cremate the dead as per Vedic practice. They also perform elaborate rituals in honour and memory of the departed in front of the ashes of the dead. Elaborate chants beginning with OM consecrate the memory of the dead. Candles are lighted to represent the flame of life of the departed soul. Offerings of food are also kept in front at the ritual to signify that the deceased is still remembered as a family-member.

Navaratri Celebration In Japan

Vedic tradition has set apart the dark lunar fortnight in September/October (before the Dussera festival) to pay spiritual homage to dead ancestors. No new, good, auspicious ventures are initiated during that fortnight.

The first nine nights of the succeeding bright lunar fortnight, devoted to the worship of the Mother Goddess, constitute the Navaratri festival.

Both the above observances were worldwide. The All Souls Day that Christianity still observes is a truncated reminder of that obsequial fortnight of Vedic tradition.

Since Mother Goddess images have been found in almost all

parts of the world it is obvious that the Navaratri celebrations too were worldwide. Terms like 'mother', Alma Mater and Mater Dei in world languages derive from the Sanskrit word 'Matar' (मातर).

The Hina Matsuri festival of the Japanese is a relic of the Vedic Navaratri festival. In fact 'Matsuri' is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit reverential term 'Matusri' for 'Mother'.

Currently the Hina Matsuri is the Japanese festival of dolls. It falls on the third day of the third month. It was originally a festival of young girls as in India but is now a family festival. A modern innovation is computer dolls which welcome visitors and talk to them too.

Dolls, kings, courtiers, lay-men and animals stored away at other times in boxes are taken out for the festival, dusted and arranged in an attractive, terraced display as in India. The doll-stand is known as Hina Dam. That word 'Dham' is Sanskrit 'abode'.

Several top, tiers occupied by the king and empress, the council of ministers and other dignitaries are covered with a resplendent red sheet. The dolls are dressed in ancient court-costumes made of embroidered silks, sewed with sequins and braided in gold, sliver, rich purple and royal blue.

The ladies of the house, dressed in their best, gather around the display and entertain guests. In many parts of India too such terraced displays form part of goddess worship observations in orthodox homes.

The Hanuman Festival

Hanuman Jayanti i.e. the birthday of the Ramayanic leader, Hanuman is celebrated in India every year in April. Corresponding to that the Hanumatsri festival of Japan in 1982 fell on April 8, the very day it was celebrated in India, informs a friend. Hanumatsri, the Japanese term is the same as Sri Hanuman, alias Hanumant. The honorific suffix Sri is often applied at the end of the name, in Japanese tradition.

Benzai - Ten, Taisha, Kurren - may seem meaningless to a layman but if he visits the Horyoji-temple near Nara, he will discover that these are the Japanese names for popular Vedic deities - Lakshmi, Saraswati and Indra.

"As in India Lakshmi (Kichojo - Ten), the symbol of wealth and other material benefits, is extremely popular in Japan," says Dr. Dwijendra Nath Bakshi, Director of the Centre of Japanese Studies there.

Dr. Bakshi in his thesis "Brahminical Divinities in the Japanese Buddhist Pantheon" establishes that Hindu gods and goddesses went to Japan "under Buddhist garb when Buddhism made inroads in that country around 538 A.D. In Japan Saraswati (Benzai-Ten or Benten) apart from being the goddess of knowledge, she is also associated with all kinds of flow, including flow of money and children."

The earliest extant images of Hindu deities in Japan include a painting of Indra (Taishaku-Ten) standing on a lotus in Temamushi shrine in Horyo-ji-temple. The painting belongs to late sixth or early seventh century A.D. it is presumed.

Clay images of Brahma and Indra, dating back to a period ranging between 708 and 715 A.D. are also to be found in the Horyo-ji-temple. An image of eight-armed Saraswati made in the second half of the eightth century is found in Todai-ji temple (Hokkaido)

A 17th century bronze idol of two female Ganesha forms clasped in each other's arms are at the Hozan-ji temple in Ikoma. Ganesha in Japan is called Sho-Ten or Kanji-Ten.

Ancient Vedic alias Hindu culture of Japan acquired the robes of Buddhism, when Prince Umayado, the second son of emperor Yomei, became the ruler in 585 A.D after the death of emperor Bidatsu.

During the battle with Mononobe, who belonged to military clansmen and was opposed to Buddhism, Prince Umayado had promised that if he won he would build temples in honour of the

"four heavenly kings". (Chaturmaharaja) Dhritarashtra, Virudhaka, Virupaksha and Vaisravana alias Kuber protecting the four directions of the world. Umayado built the Shitenno-ji temple in Osaka in 587 A.D. All the above four being pre-Buddhist heroes, Prince Umayado too obviously was a non-Buddhist.

In fact it is a blunder to regard Buddhism as something separate from Vedic Culture, since the Buddha was himself a Vedic recluse.

Dr. Bakshis' conclusion that Vedic deities migrated to Japan under a Buddhist garb is incorrect.

Vedic culture alias Hinduism pervaded the world (including Japan) from the very first generation of humanity. Threrefore later when the Buddha was deified his idol too figured in the Vedic (Hindu) pantheon.

Vedic deities enshrined in Japan

VEDIC PAST OF AMERICA

The north and south American continents house a number of countries such as Canada and USA in the North American continent, Mexico, Guatemala and Nicaragua in the tail of that continent and Venezuela, Columbia, Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina, Uruguay, Patagonia etc. in the South American continent.

Just as Britishers were prone to refer to their Australian dominion as 'Down and Under' because it was in the southern hemisphere, similarly under Vedic culture the American continents used to be referred to as the Pataal lok i. e. the Down and Under.

The term Canada derives from an ancient Vedic nuclear scientist known as Kanaad. (कणाद)

Similarly the term America when written as Amerisa (since C and S in the English alphabet have a common pronunciation) it will be seen to be a Sanskrit term signifying (अमर ईश) 'immortal divinity.'

The names of various American countries could also be seen to be of Sanskrit origin continuing from primordial Vedic times. Maya being a well known Sanskrit term the Mayan civilization of America was obviously Vedic.

Aztec is the term Astik i. e. theists alias believers in divinity.

Uruguay is from (उरुगाव:) Urugavah meaning God Vishnu.

Guatemala is the term (गौतमालय) Gautamalaya meaning the abode

of (Sage) Gautam. That revered Vedic sage may have had his hermitage school in the region bearing his name.

Arjuntana in Sanskrit signifies silver or anything silvery. Consequently the fact that Argentine is well known for its silver mines is an indication of the Sanskrit origin of its name.

The 'ia' alias 'eeya' ending of countries such as Columbia Bolivia and Patagonia (like Russia and Siberia) is distinctly Sanskrit.

Venezuela is Vana ujwal (वनउज्वल) i. e. the glorious forest.

Mexico

Mexico is the Sanskrit term Moxaca (मोक्षक) connoting a place of salvation abounding in temples, seminaries, monasteries, serais and Vedic hermitage schools during pre-Christian times. Also Makshik (माक्षिक) is an honey-like mineral used in Ayurvedic remedies. It could be that Mexico alias Makshik region was a rich source of that mineral.

Take a close look at the photo reproduced below.

Hanuman, A Vedic deity from a Temple in ancient Mexico

That idol of a monkey-deity was discovered while-digging at a Mexico city subway station (Courtesy, National Geographic Magazine, Washington D. C., December 1990 issue)

He is said to be the Wind God Echtill of the Aztec people whose breath started the movement of the Aztec Sun.

Aztec is the Sanskrit term 'Astik' implying a devout, God-fearing, God-honouring and God-worshipping people.

The stump in the right hand held on the shoulder symbolizes the trunks of huge timber-trees which Lord Rama's monkey-brigades used as battering Ramrods to break open the gateways of Lanka.

In Vedic lore Hanuman, the Monkey God is said to be the son of the Wind, who tried to fly to the sun at a young age. Obviously the Aztec version which is a slight variation of the Vedic lore indicates the prevalence of Vedic culture in Mexico in pre-Christian times.

What made Americas get cut off?

The American continents remained cut off from human history of other continents because they are isolated from the rest of the world by vast stretches of the Pacific ocean on one side and the Atlantic on the other.

After the devastation of the great Mahabharat (world) war (circa 5561 B. C.) when world communications broke down the American continents remained isolated for several centuries.

In those days India continued to be the greatest maritime power while most other countries were reduced to non-entities as is apparent from the Sanskrit term ' 'navy' (alias nāvi) signifying a group of ships and 'sea' from Sanskrit Sāgar (सागर) alias Samudra (समुद्र).

Being cut off from the rest of the prosperous world, the American continents were overgrown with thick forests and its residents gradually lapsed into tribal ignorance and backwardness.

In the ups and downs of life, communities too, like individuals

have periods of prosperity and backwardness.

Who Discovered America ?

The present belief that the Americas were discovered by Columbus may hold true for Europeans and the rest of the modern world but not for India. India continued to be in constant touch with the Americas during the milleniums of a world Vedic empire.

Twenty Theories

There are 20 theories about the origins of the tribes which inhabit the American continents, discussed in Miss Cora Walker's book titled **Cuatemoc** (the last Mexican emperor)

Mexican tradition says that their ancestors came from a beautiful far off land.

Montezuma, a Mexican ruler told invading Spaniards that his ancestors arrived from the far East, across vast oceans and had a fair complexion.

As per the Vishnu Puran the nether regions number seven viz. Atala, Vitala, Nitala, Gabhastimat, Mahstala, Sutala and Patala. They are embellished with magnificent palaces in which dwell Danavas, Daityas, Yakshas and the great Naga Gods.

Prof. Rama Mena, curator of the Mexican National Museum records in his book (Mexican Archaeology) about Mexicans "The human types are like those of India. Their perfection in design, the irreproachable technique of their reliefs, the sumptuous, head dress and ostentatious buildings on high, the system of construction, all speak of India and Orient."

Dr. Magana Peon and Professor Humberlo Cornyn, members of the Geographical Society of Mexico have concluded that as far as Nahuatl, Zapoteca and Maya languages are of Hindu - European origin" (Page 5, **Hindu America**)

The above quotation incidentally proves that like the four Mexican languages European languages too are of Sanskritic origin.

The name Magana Peon could be Sanskrit Magna - Punya i. e. one engrossed in charitable deeds.

In the Buddhist and pre-Buddhist periods India was the teacher of the world, the mistress of the seas and the supplier of all merchandise through its global trade routes.

The Tezuco mentioned in Mexican tradition is the term Taxaka ([illegible]) of the Indian Puranas. Taxaka was a king of the Naga tribe of the nether world.

Professor Magana Peon concludes that the Mexican civilization is at least ten thousand years ancient (Page 5, bottom of **Chamanlal's** book). Only Indian Vedic tradition speaks of such antiquity as well as of global connections.

Hanuman Statue In Mexico

A 1500-pound statue of Lord Hanuman sculpted in pink Jaipuri marble has been erected in Taos city in New Mexico on America's west coast. The local people, mostly Hispanies and American Indians visit it and devotees pay their homage to the deity and hold special devotional congregations every Tuesday. The city name Taos is a variation of the Sanskrit term Devas i. e. God.

Pre-Columbus America

Currently Columbus is supposed to be the discoverer of the American continents. That is because current histories are written by European Christians. Pre-Christian histories having been systematically destroyed by Christian zealots. Christian writers tend to attribute all discoveries to the Christian-era. Such short-sightedness resulting from the myopic view of a short-tradition is like that of a toddler whose view of the creation extends only to his own parents

Mexico

A Book titled HINDU AMERICA written by Chamanlal and published by the Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Bombay in 1940 has the following three quotes on the first page of its 1st chapter.

"Those who first arrived on the Continent later to be known as America were groups of men driven by that mighty current that set out from India towards the East" (History of Mexico, a Mexican Government publication)

"The (Maya) human types are like those of India. The Irreproachable technique of their reliefs, the sumptuous head dress and ostentatious bulidings on high, the system of construction, all speak of India and the orient" -Professor Rama Mena, Curator of the National Museum of Mexico.

(Even the curator's name Rama Mena is significantly Indian.)

"Hindu merchants brought to Mexico the eighteen month's year of the Pandavas and the custom of trade guild and Indian bazar" Hewitt-Primitive Traditional History, PP. 834-36.

"That the North-American Indian belonged to a Northern race, who made their way to the Southern Hemisphere, both in America and Asia, is proved by the absolute identity between the national system of relationships of the Iraquois (American Indian tribe) and Indian Dravidians shown in the tables of consanguinity in Margau's Ancient Society, to co-exist with the form of marriage which he calls Punuluan (Punya Lagna in Sanskrit). This I have shown it to be a union between alien races, in which the bridegroom received the bride into his clan by making blood-brotherhood with her, and marking the parting of her hair with vermilion, a rite still preserved by all 'Hindu castes' (Ruling Races of Pre-historic America, P. - 234.)

Mexican Mansions

Veracruz the busiest port of Mexico, in our own times, has gigantic, extensive ruins of a magnificent ancient civilization (temples, two-storied palaces, spacious courts, huge defensive walls, terraces and countless houses.

Among the ruins is a tapering seven storied red sandstone temple with 365 niches. The immense stocks of gold and other wealth adorning the mansions of this ancient civilization were plundered by Spanish

freebooters who swooped on this unsuspecting kingdom of hoary antiquity.

Toltecs, the predecessors of Aztecs also built Pyramids. One such has been discovered at a place called Tula displaying stone statues believed to be of their warriors.

Franciscan friar Bernardiso de Sahagun was an exception to missionaries who in their Christian zeal wished to stamp out all idolatrous remains of the pre-Columbus days. On arriving in Mexico he mastered Nahuatl and started teaching the sons of Aztec nobles at a Franciscan school. He also organized a major research project to compile a pictorial encyclopaedia of Aztec culture. But Spain's king Philip II barred the printing of the book out of fanatic Christian abhorrance for even an academic study of anything idolatrous. Two hundred forty years after Sahagun's death at the age of 91, were his 12 volumes published. As in India even in Mexico modern scholars are prone to ridicule any pride in the glory and greatness of their ancient civilization.

Mackenzie in his "Myths of pre-Columbian America" gives a detailed account of the worship of Ganesh in ancient America.

Hewitt's Primitive Traditional History says, Ganesh was worshipped all over the Pacific and also in America.

Vedic Statuary in Ancient America

An article in the Sunday-Standard (India) of July 27, 1975 carried the picture of a large, heavy stone disc bearing an intricately carved Aztec calendar of Mexico, divided into the four Hindu ages comprising the exact number of years stated by Vedic tradition.

When the Spanish invaded the Inca territory in 1532 they noticed a number of life-size gold statues in a hall in Peru. One of the Inca rulers told them that the statues were of his ancestors who ruled over a vast empire. The invaders, eager to grab and melt the gold statues decided to get the images sketched for history. Those sketches may be seen in the Madrid Museum. Some researchers believe that a hundred Aiyar Vedic, Hindu rulers governed the

3000-mile-long ancient Hindu, Vedic empire in Peru.

Aztecs received the great with a drink of honey, known as Madhupark in Sanskrit tradition. The Mexicans bake chapatees as Hindus do and also chew paan i. e. betel leaf.

The gory sacrificial rites and cannibalism that Christian European and American explorers surmise from a study of Aztec ruins must never be depended upon, since we know from our experience in India how a long line of blundering European scholars from William Jones onwards has propagated queer views about the Vedas, and historic buildings, etc. out of innate hatred.

As stated in Dr. S. Venugopalacharya 's book titled WORLDWIDE HINDU CULTURE, SANSKRIT AND UNITY IN DIVERSITY (Page 49) ''The pre-Spanish rulers of America were Hindus who spoke Kannad-Telgu languages and wrote in Kannad-Telugu scripts.

The photos of their temples published in the book titled HINDU AMERICA by Chamanlal depict how the massive, lofty temples of Mayas, Incas, Aztecs of South America bore close resemblance to South Indian temples.

The Treacherous Spanish Attack

Dr. Venugopalacharya writes (on page 49) that in 1532 (A. D.) the Spanish pirate Pizarro and his followers who reached Peru were welcomed and given liberal hospitality by the emperor of Peru, Atahullapa (which appears to be the Sanskrit term Atyalp.) The guileful guests invited emperor Atahullapa for a party. When the unsuspecting ruler arrived unarmed in a palanquin by the royal route to the cheering of Cuzco people. (from Kusha son of Rama.) Pizarro's small band launched a savage attack mounted on neighing, bell-jangling horses, backed by sporadic salvoes of musket and cannon taking the emperor prisoner after slaughtering about 6000 citizens.

As a result of that unscrupulous attack the Spanish got fabulous treasure such as one chamber full of gold and two full of silver. Atyalpa, the imprisoned sovereign was put to death since he refused to turn Christian. Thereafter for 150 years Spaniards continued

to plunder the region reducing the natives to paupery and forcing them to profess Christianity. All native books were burnt and temples were razed to the ground.

A decade earlier a Spanish invader, Cortez had similarly invaded, robbed and massacred Mexicans.

Even to this day the descendants of those Vedic Americans continue to offer worship to divine icons, burn candles and offer food to the deities. They also bow to the rising sun. Their deity is Dios Munda which is Sanskrit देव ब्रह्माण्ड (Deva Brahmanda) i. e Lord of the Universe. They burn incense and consider the cross to represent the four cardinal directions. Their priests known as H. men are Brahmins who offer sacrifices to Chac (i. e. Shakra alias Indra), Lord of the Gods. They offer a morsel of food to the fire god and then offer food to guests before partaking of it themselves. They worship mother earth before cultivating the soil or digging to construct houses. All these testify to the Vedic (Hindu) culture of the local people.

The Mexicans consult astrologers when venturing on any important mission and seek the help of local, native doctors who prescribe herbal remedies. The game they play at home is Patoli which is Sanskrit Patravali (a kind of chess).

As do some Indian village folk Mexicans crush a few cocoa leaves with lime on their palm and quaff the dry mixture occasionally.

The women wear sarees with a shawl covering their shoulders. They retain long hair. The menfolk wear Panchos (alias Pancha) at home around the waist

After childbirth the mother and the child are given a steam bath for 20 days. The mother also drinks a decoction of pepper for about a month after delivery.

Their new year festival is Ramasitua when they walk across a fire pit as a kind of purification.

Ramasitua is a festival commemorating Rama and Seeta.

Around November I Mexicans celebrate a festival of lights which is the same as the Hindu Deepawali.

All such details leave one in no doubt that the native tribes which inhabit the American continents are basically people of Vedic culture.

Mounts Shiv and Vishnu in U.S.A

The peak of the 1200 ft. high sheer sandstone cliff which rises from the base of the Grand Canyon in Arizona, U. S. A. has a wooded plateau on top which is named Mt. Shiva reminiscent of the pre-Christian Vedic culture of the Americas.

Likewise primordial rock which sustained the basic life-forms on earth is named Vishnu Schist in the Arizona Grand Canyon, National Park near points 15 and 16.

Vedic Nomenclature in Western Terminology

Archaeologists who presume man to have developed from monkeys have curiously named monkey types after Vedic deities as Rama Pithacus and Siva Pithacus.

. Thus the persistence of the names of Vedic deities Shiva and Vishnu in totally Christian Western society is a curious, esoteric instance of the continuance of a spiritual under-current in mundane life despite outward changes in life-styles and thinking.

Segregating Women in Menses

One very curious proof of Vedic culture having pervaded the world in ancient times is the segregation of women during menses both as a measure of social hygiene and to give such women necessary rest. That tradition prevails even among tribal people in distant lands.

In an ancient Hawaiian ethnic site is reconstructed a 'menstrual hut' with a notice displayed barring men from going near it on

penalty of death.

This ancient Vedic practice is medically very sound since it ensures necessary rest to the woman during her periods and also shields others from her during her unhygienic state. This found remarkable corroboration in European factories handling milk. There it was noticed that milk curdled if handled by women employees during their menses. Therefore the milk-processing establishments had to treat menses of women employees as leave periods.

Vedic Roots of Mormons in U.S.A.

In the state of UTAH in the United States of America is a Mormon community believed to be founded in 1830 by Joseph Smith in New York on the basis of a supposed divine revelation in the Book of Mormon said to be by an imaginary author. It practised polygamy. Seventy percent Mormons are found in the State of Utah because the Mormons founded the State in 1847. In the language of the Red Indian the term Utah signified a plateau. That word is of Sanskrit origin as may be judged from the word ''UTTISTHA'' (उत्तिष्ठ) meaning ''stand up'', That is an indication of that language being a splinter of Sanskrit.

Though the Mormons are believed to be a Christian sect, their beliefs and practices are far different from those of either Catholics or Protestants.They believe in a life after death. Joseph Smith is believed to have had a vision in which divinity revealed to him the contents of a scripture written on golden leaves in 42 B. C., near what is now New York.

The term Mormon derives from the Sanskrit word Marma meaning the central principle. Marmajna (मर्मज्ञ) is one who grasps the very essence.

The book of Mormon mentions an angel alias an incarnation who had lived in America in ancient times and of a Jesus Christ (i. e. Iesus Chrisna) who was reborn and was seen by Red Indians.

The Mormons are a deeply religious community. On Sundays each Mormon spends at least three hours on an average in the

church. Weddings are usually the result of acquaintance struck at Church gatherings. Only those of proper behaviour and dress can enter the Church. Weddings are supposed to bind the parties through all future lives too and not for the current life alone as in Vedic weddings.

All religious functions are performed by the common folk in addition to their own professional and family life. Therefore, even the top church functtonary is a working man.

Children are looked upon as divine flowers of the garden of family life. Therefore each Mormon couple on an average has as many as 16 children. Consequently each family owns big cars and vans. Mormons love to have numerous relations.

The Mormons consider the human body as of divine make and therefore take care not to defile it by smoking, drinking, taking drugs and even tea and coffee. Therefore in universities in Utah only foreigners are seen indulging in those things. Each building in Utah has those taboos prominently written at its entrance. Therefore the average life-expectancy of Mormons is double that of Americans elsewhere. Mormons avoid movies depicting violence or indecency. The whole community leads such an honest life that one doesn't have to lock homes when stepping out. That is how it was in ancient India. The Mormons set great store by education. Ninety percent complete higher secondary level education while in the rest of USA that percentage is only 65. Every adult is well-versed in the principles of the Mormon sect. They are very keen to convert others to their sect. Each earning member contributes at least 10 percent of his income to his church. They save money to be able to work as missionaries abroad at their own expense for two years. On return from such service they go in for higher education. All the important traits and beliefs of the Mormons described above are thus of Vedic origin.

Peru

Residents of Peru (in the western part of the South American continent) were sun-worshippers whose main festival was the sun's

entry into Capricorn. Which is the Makar Sanskriti festival in India. They are currently known as Incas which is a malpronunciation of the ancient Sanskrit name Anga (Asiatic Researches Vol, I, page 426).

In the USA the California region is the Kapilaranya mentioned frequently in ancient Sanskrit literature.

Another township Matawan (in USA) gets its name from the ancient temple and bower of the Mother Goddess.

The nearby Horse Island and Ash Island get their names respectively from the Vedic legend of King Sagar's sacrificial horse escorted by an army of 60,000 soldiers. The horse was found stalled and tethered obviously on Horse Island. King Sagar's 60,000 'sons' alias soldiers were reduced to ashes by their opponents. That explains the name Ash Island.

Observatories

Vedic seismic, astronomical and meteorological observatories equipped with the most sensitive and ingenious instruments were established all around the globe in ancient times in all famous centres such as Varanasi, Jaipur, Delhi, Ujjain, Lanka, Samarkand, Alexandria, Rome, Mecca and Upsala in Sweden. These were manned by Vedic scientists. It was those observatories which helped to perpare the world Vedic almanac for deciding the days on which various festivals were to be observed. Those observatories also provided weather-guidance to navigators and to farmers for sowings and reapings. Almanacs also helped astrologers to forewarn individuals, communities and administrators on the impending calamities such as earthquakes, storms, wars and famines.

The so-called Red Indians in the American continents also retain tenuous links with the ancient Vedic almanac system. Those so-called Red Indians belong to the ancient Naag (i.e. Cobra) clan referred to in Indian legends. They are described as residing in the nether (Pataal) region because the American continents are on the other side of India on the spherical globe. If a hole were to be dug from

India its other end would open out in the Americas. that is precisely what is stated in the Vedic legends about the Nagalok i.e. people living in the Naga region. Today though the Red Indians may appear to be ill-clad, semi-literate, forest-dwellers, yet a number of their remains such as massive mansions, majestic temples, observatories etc. testify to their having once been a very advanced community.

Ruins of one of their ancient observatories were reported discovered in an October 1969 issue of the Indian Express (and perhaps also in other leading newspapers). The report stated " A stone calendar constructed by American Indians in the south-western state of New Mexico a thousand years ago is a unique astronomical observatory marking the seasons and cycles of the Sun.

" Sunlight shines through three precisely positioned sandstone slabs to cast slivers of light on two spiral patterns carved in a cliff face. Those vertical daggers of light mark the seasons and major positions of the Sun which can be read on the patterns.

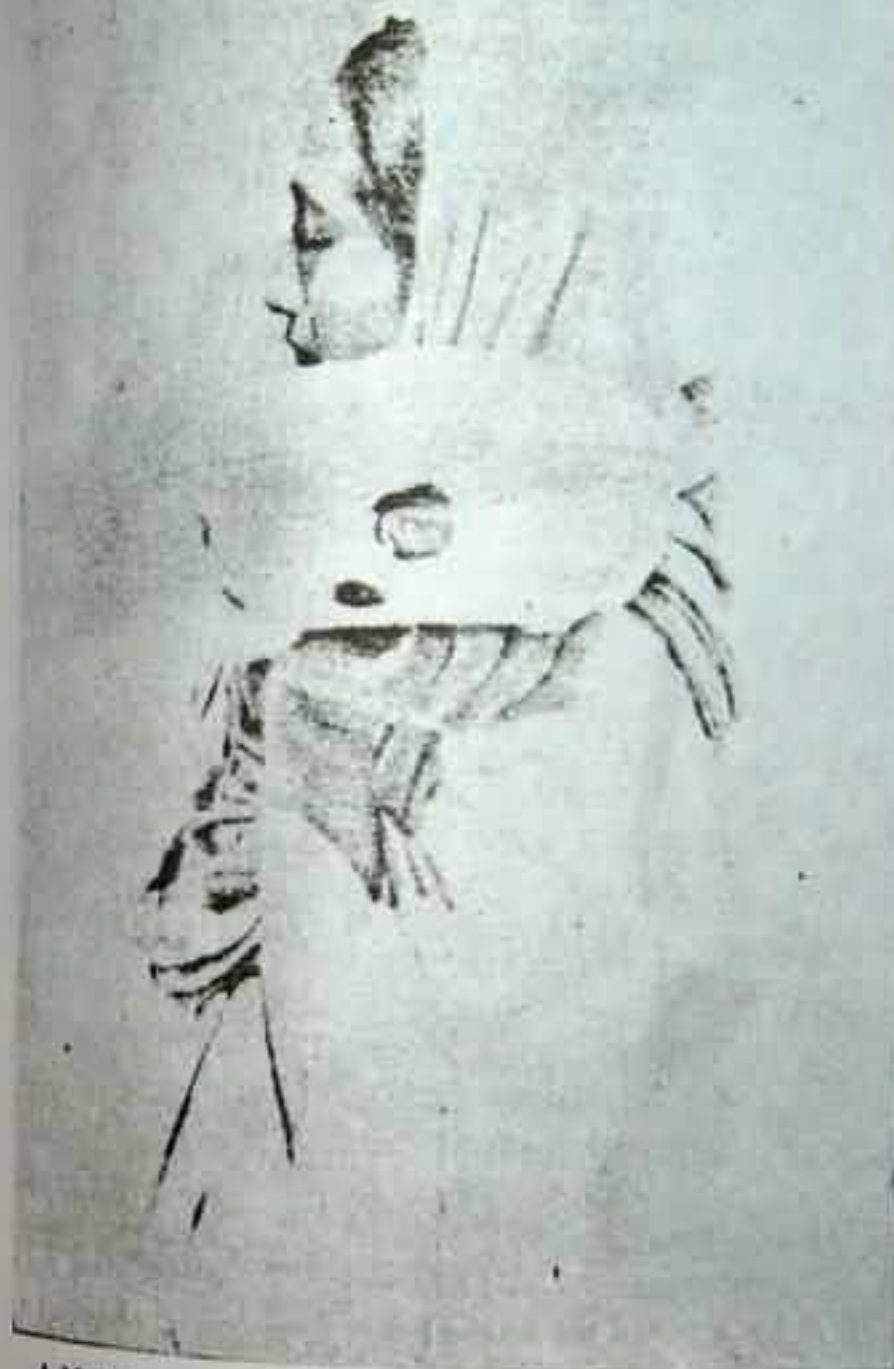
" The calendar was constructed high on the Butte by the Anasazi Indians, forerunners of today's Pueblo Indians.

" Those Indians had an advanced civilization from about 400 A.D. to 1300 A.D. and then mysteriously declined. The Anasazi lived in multi-storey buildings built in the sides of hills.

" The Indians also built irrigation systems with canals and small dams, constructed hundreds of miles of roadways and developed an extensive system of trade.

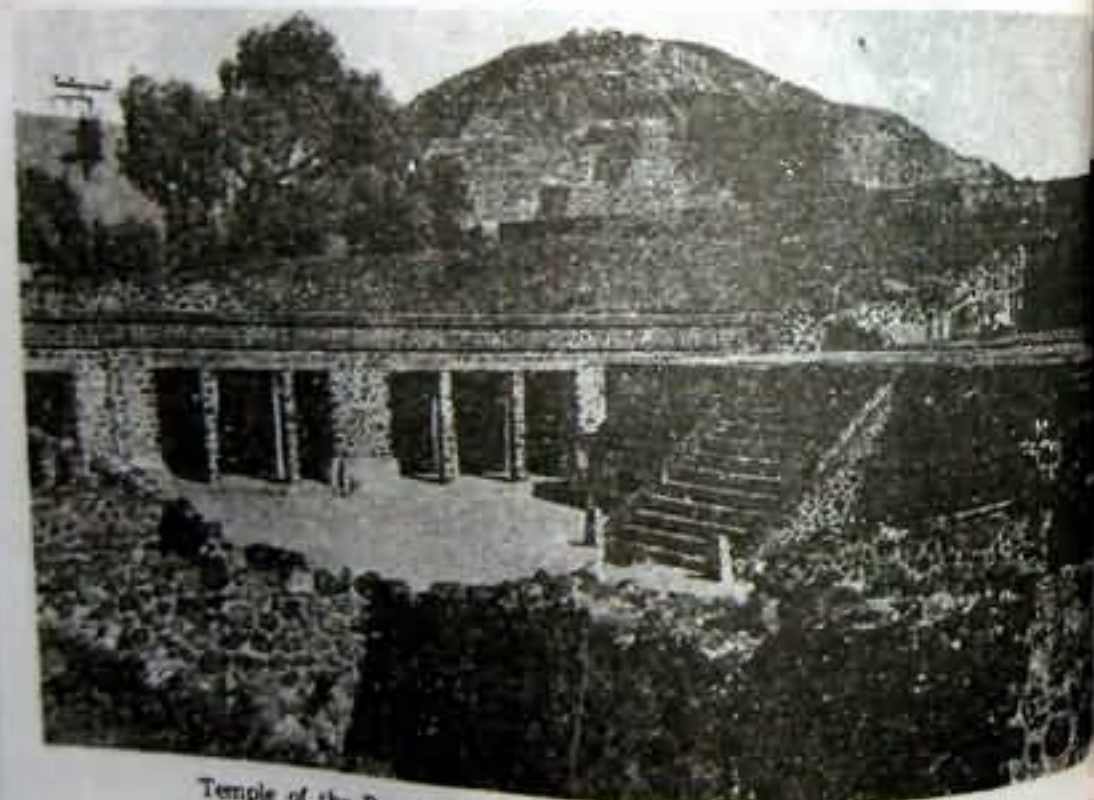
" The astronomical observatory also shows they were advanced scientifically as were some central American cultures such as the Aztecs and Mayans.

Daggers of light shining through the stones precisely mark the solar solstices, the days when the sun is farthest north or south of the Equator, and gives even length of night and day all over the earth. There also is evidence that the calendar marks some lunar positions and probably some eclipses. " ♦♦

The pictures that follow are reproduced from Chamanlal's book Hindu America or from Dr. S. Venugopalacharya's scrap-book.

A Mexican woman proceeding to the community bakery to prepare (chapatis) Hindu bread

He is not a Hindu but a true Indian from Central America

This woman belongs to Rajapura in Mexico. The name of that township clearly indicates that Sanskrit-speaking Rajas ruled Mexico in pre-Christian times.

Mexican Women in Himachal
Pradesh-type Indian attire

Temple of the Butterflies (Templo de las Mariposas) so-called from the carvings on the columns, at the foot of the Moon Pyramid seems to have been a Sanskrit hermitage-school run by Vedic sages, at San Juan, Teoti[illegible] Mexico.

A Mexican woman carrying her child in the Hindu style.

A Mexican woman clad in her traditional Hindu saree.

This thousand-pillared temple is in Mitla i. e. Mithila city in Mexico. South India still has many thousand-column temples such as the one in Rameswar.

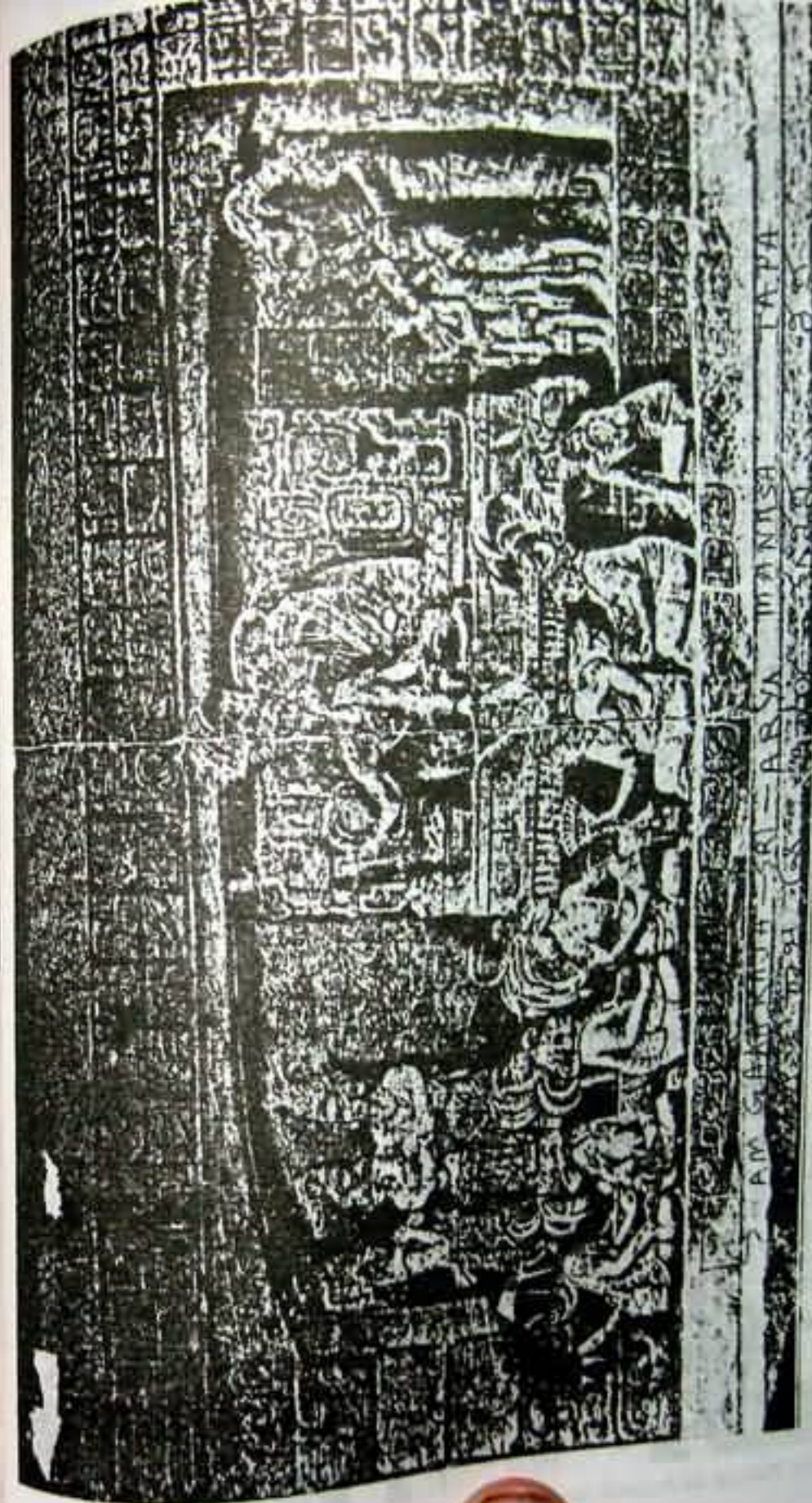
Offering Incense to the Sun God.

Plaza de la Luna, Calzada de los Muertes and Piramide del Sol i. e. Square of the Moon, Avenue of the Dead and Pyramid of the Sun (Left background)

Muertes i. e. 'Mrityu' and sol i. e. Soorya are Sanskrit words. The monuments are obviously cremation spots of ancient Vedic Kshatriya rulers of the Solar and Lunar races at San Juan, Teotihuacan, Mexico.

The Narsimha (man-lion) Vedic deity of Ancient Indochina.

An ancient Hindu Raja, a top an elephant. (Indochina)

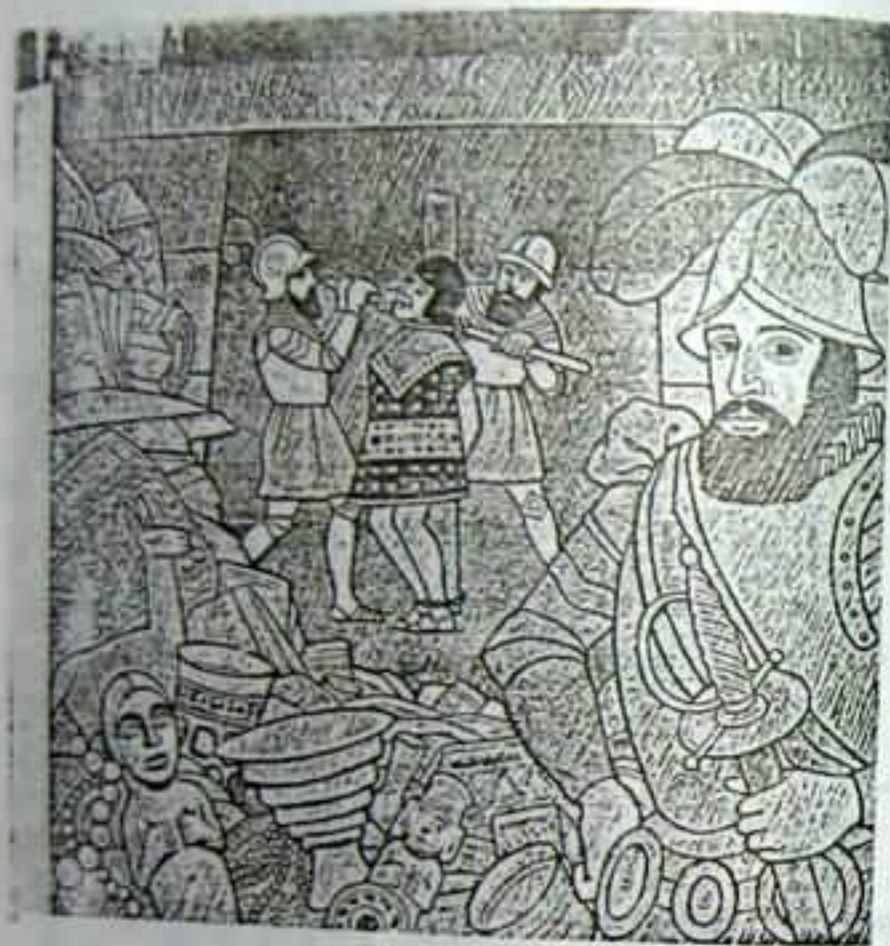
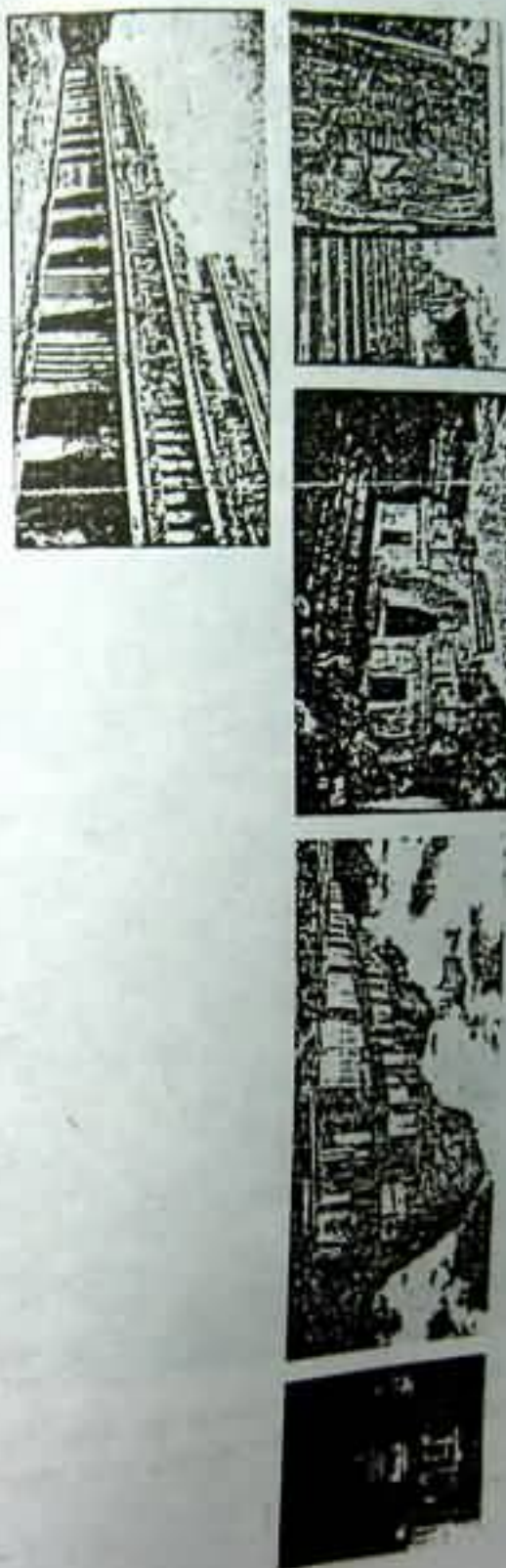
Ganesh In Indochina

Sculpture in Guatemala alias Gautamalaya (South America) with bilingual inscriptions in Kannad and Mayan scripts depicting the ruler Ayar Mancotopa alias Arya Manadeva with his counsellors.

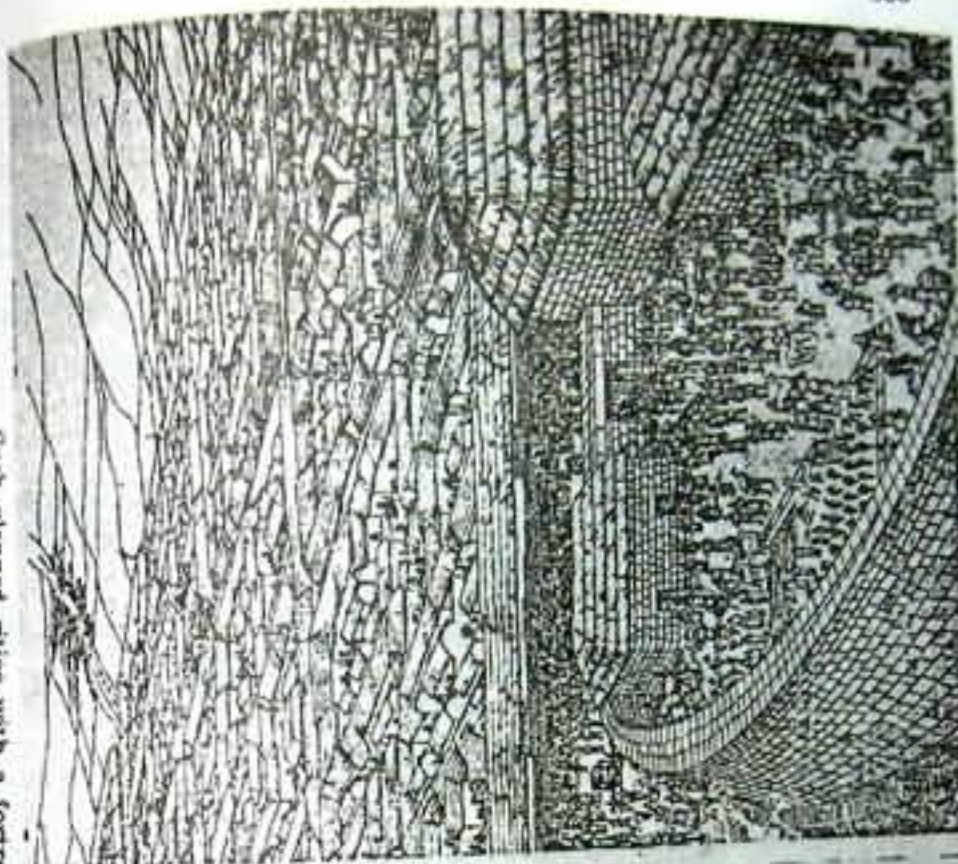
Atyalp, the last Vedic ruler of Peru of the solar dynasty as evidenced by the Sun-emblem above his left ear.

He was treacherously attacked and murdered by the Spanish pirate Pizarro in 1532 A. D.

Hindu Turban In Ancient America, and royal elephant motifs.

Spaniards overrunning the Inca (i. e. Anga) realm of the Vedic Solar dynasty ruler Atahuallpa (i. e. Atyalpa) in 1532 A. D.

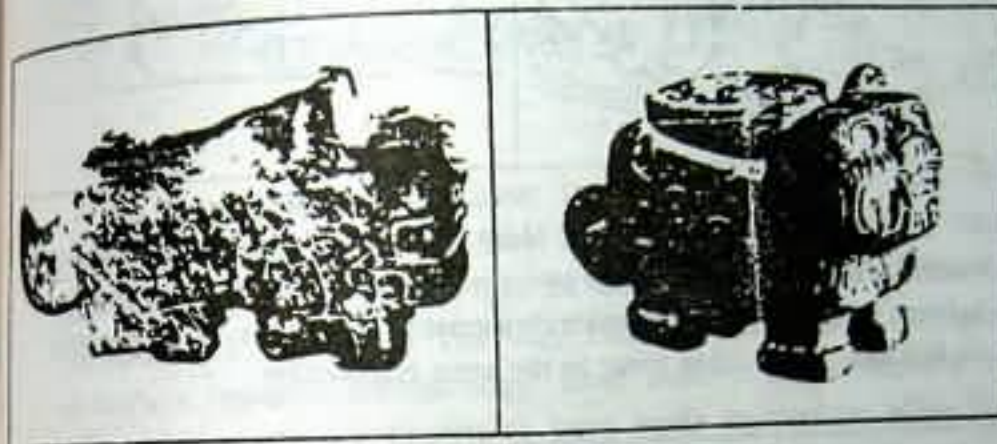
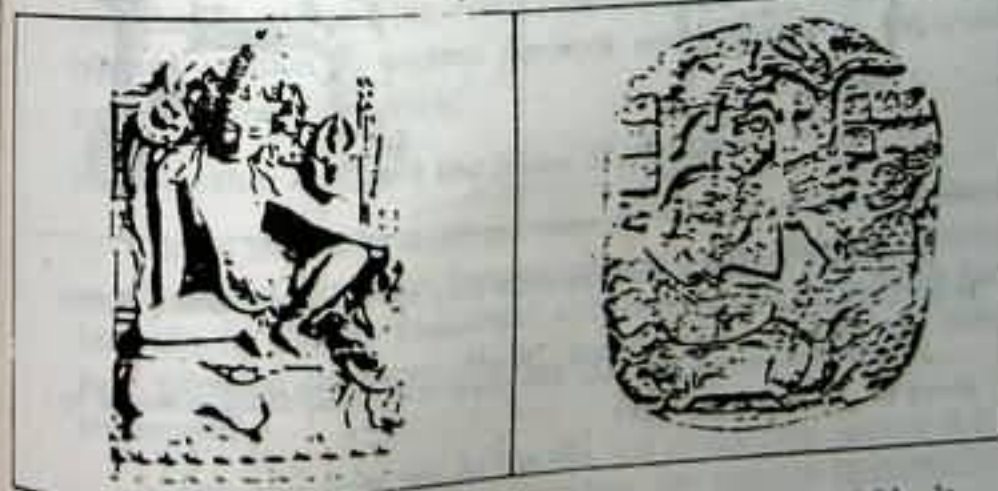
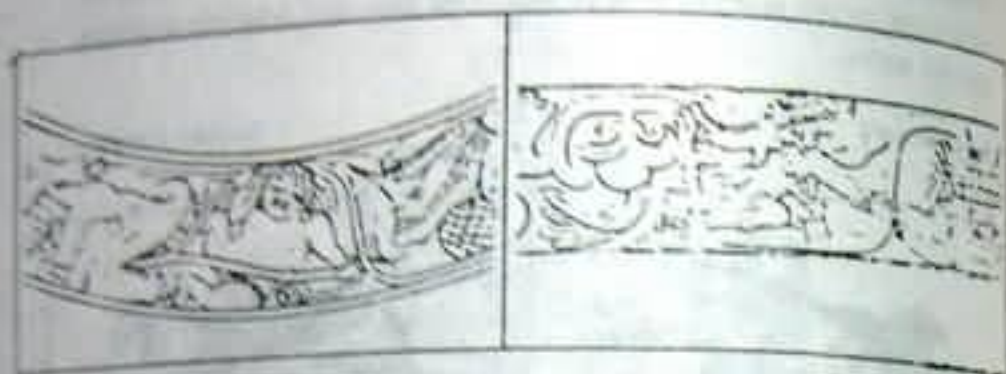
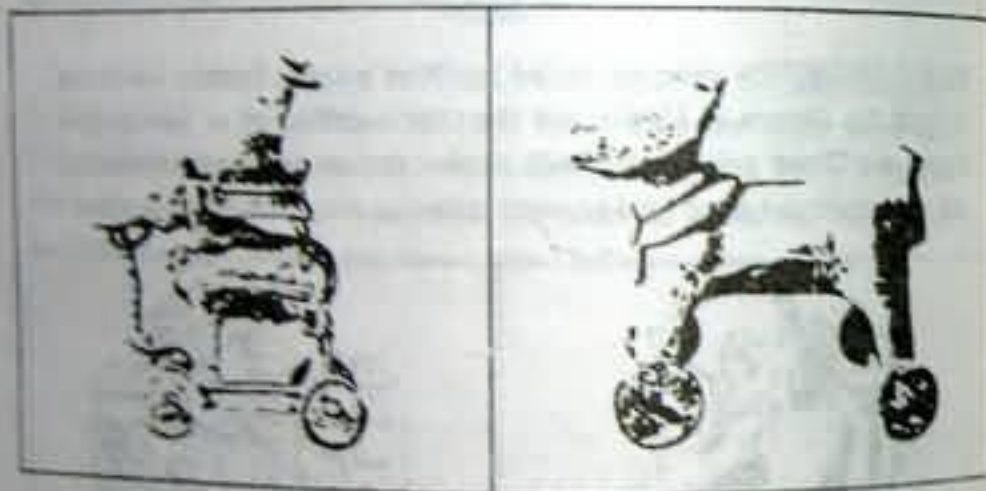
The Inca ruler taken prisoner. The huge ransom demanded for his release is seen heaped in the foreground.

Innumerable such (Hindu) Vedic temples spread over the South American continent were conquered, plundered and wrecked by European, Christian freebooters.

Ruined Hindu palaces in Palanque
i. e. Pataal Lanka in Mexico

Piramide del Sol i. e. Sun Pyramid at San Juan, Teotibuacan, Mexico
The construction is of the Vedic fire-worship altar design.

Such planned cities with a fortress in the lower foreground were a common feature of ancient Vedic civilization in South America since ruined by Spanish invaders.

Above is a masque dug up at Tikal in Guatemala (i. e. Gautamalaya). It is estimated to be of about 527 A.D. Such masques were worn (as in Kerala, India) by religious festival dancers. Note the Vedic forehead marks above the nose, the octagonal disc and the cross on top of the head proving that the cross has been a pre-Christian solar symbol.

The Americas were not isolated from the rest of the Vedic world in ancient times as may be seen from the illustrations hereunder. Recently archaeologists have noted certain resemblances between East Asian and American arteifacts and art styles.

Eastern Asia

Ancient America

FELINE DIVINITIES were worshiped by China's Shang Dynasty (left) and by both the Olmecs of Mexico and the Chavin civilization of Peru (right) Shang and Olmec priests also built similar earthen ceremonial platforms, and used much the same kind of small reflecting mirrors in religious rituals.

LION-HEADED THRONES are shown in representations of deities in India (left) and of Maya dignitaries (right) The Maya shared other ritual expressions with Hindu culture, including stepped temple pyramids, doorways with serpent columns and balustrades, and sacred tree forms.

LOTUS FRIEZES adorn both Maya and Indian temples. Remarkable similarities occur between these two designs, which portray men reclining between winding lotus stems which they grasp in both hands. Water monsters or fish alias Makar often occur in the same composition.

WHEELED ANIMALS made in India may have inspired similar figures found in Mexican tombs;.

(These pictures on pp. 555, 556 were very thoughtfully provided by young Dr. V. N. Bhide, USA)

THE VEDIC PAST OF CHINA

The formidable area of China, its teeming population and the ubiquitous twang of the Chinese language mislead scholars into believing that China always had its own special culture. This is yet another indication of the very faulty methods and concepts of modern research methodology. Even modern Indian experts in Chinese languages are known to have made no serious effort to penetrate the pronunciation twang and discover the Sanskritic origin of Chinese languages.

Like every other region of the world, China too practised Vedic culture and spoke Sanskrit from times immemorial uptil the Mahabharata war and for several centuries thereafter. China finds repeated mention in ancient Sanskrit scriptures as an important member of the Vedic world.

How Hinduism Acquired the Name of Buddhism

Chinese Buddhism itself provides an important clue. Buddhism as a branch of Hinduism became popular in Far Eastern countries (and also in Western countries) only because those countries had been following the Arya, Vedic, Sanatan way of life from time immemorial.

Buddha was born not in the 6th but in the 19th century B.C. (see chapter 11 of SOME BLUNDERS OF INDIAN HISTORICAL RESEARCH by P. N. Oak). His forsaking the throne to become a monk electrified the contemporary world. He became so famous

that the same old Vedantic doctrines were thereafter quoted in his name, as his teachings, in all Vedic establishments around the world. That was precisely the period, when as a result of the earlier carnage of the Mahabharat war the universal use of Sanskrit and study of Vedic scriptures had been shattered and started dwindling. Just at that juncture prince Siddhartha Gautama the Buddha happened to arrest worldwide attention because of his great renunciation. That made preachers and teachers working in Vedic temples and monasteries all over the world to attract the attention of the shattered, sagging Vedic world to Vedic teachings by quoting the famous Buddha as a great contemporary Vedic authority. This made the shattered regional bits of the erstwhile Vedic administration continue to follow their age-old Vedic customs and tradition under the new label of Buddhism. Scholars around the world who are supposed to be experts in Buddhism do great violence to history when they treat Buddhism as some separate philosophy. They ought to realize that Buddhism was but a new mark which got stuck to the age-old Vedic teachings at a weak moment.

Ganesh

Vedic Hindu deities have continued to be revered and worshipped in China but their names and figures have got distorted because of loss of contact with India and distances of time and space separating the two countries. Those distortions have rendered them unrecognizable. Added to that is the ineptitude of modern scholars. Staggered at the concept of considering China as a cultural colony or appendage of India they prefer to look the other way and try to study and present China as a separate culture from the very beginning. Ganesh was among the Vedic deities that China worshipped. God Ganesh is known as Kangijen in China and Japan. Scholars may now trace the other deities and the Sanskrit origin of Chinese words sans the Chinese twang.

A Japanese scholar Okakura observes: ''The religion and culture of China are undoubtedly of Hindu origin. At one time, in the single province of Loyang there were more than 3000 Indian monks and ten thousand Indian families to impress their national religion

and art on Chinese soil.''[1]

Lanka of China

Professor G. Phillips remarks ''The maritime intercourse of India with China dates from a much earlier period, from about 680 B.C. when the sea-traders of the Indian ocean whose chiefs were Hindus founded a colony called Lang-ga, after the Indian name Lanka of Ceylon, about the present gulf of Kias-Tehoa, where they arrived in vessels having the prows shaped like the heads of birds or animals after the patterns specified in the Yukti Kalpataru (an ancient Sanskrit technological text) and exemplified in the ships and boats of old Indian arts.''[2]

Count Biornstierna observes in his book ''What may be said with certainty is that the religion of China came from India.''[3]

Influence of Indian Art

E. B.Havell, who was principal of the School of Art in Calcutta and Madras during the British administration in India, has observed that ''In the early centuries of the Christian era from the Indian source came the inspiration of the great school of Chinese painting, which from the 7th to the 13th centuries stood first in the whole world...... Through China and Korea Indian art entered Japan.

China is mentioned in the Ramayan as the land of Kosa-Karas (i.e. silk worms),''[4] and also in the Mahabharat.

A Chinese coin of the second century found in Mysore also indicates that China was a part of the ancient Vedic world. Uttarapatha was the Sanskrit name of the ancient international highway which connected India with China, Russia and Iran. Correspondingly the

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(1) P.113, Ideals of the East, by Okakura.
(2) P.525, Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, 1965.
(3) P.85, The Theogony of the Hindus.
(4) Pp. 24-25, Bharat (India) As seen and known by Foreigners.
(5) Footnote, P.8, Vol. II, Aryatarangini by A.Kalyanraman, Asia Publishing House, Bombay.

Sapta Sindhu region comprised the Pamir Plateau, Western and Eastern Turkistan and Afghanistan. Khotan is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit name Gosthana while Prakanva was the original Sanskrit name of Ferghana.

Auriel Stein found evidence of Indian rule in Turkistan and Khotan in the form of coins and inscriptions and the use of an Indian language in its administration upto the 3rd century A.D. Officials bore Indian names such as Nandsena and Bheem. The offices they held also bore Sanskrit names. The person gathering and delivering mail was known as Lekhaharak. It is this word which led to the English word 'Clerk'. A messenger was known as 'doota' and the spy was known as 'Chara'. In the upper Pamirs and in Tibet too, the Vedic civilization was to be seen everywhere.

The Kucheans (on the border of the Gobi desert) and the Khotanese, though a thousand miles to the north of Punjab had the same culture as Punjab.

It may thus be seen that the entire region surrounding China was steeped in Vedic culture. Consequently China too was pervaded with the same culture. Chinese history too like that of other countries begins from the legendary Flood.

The Flood And Manu

The father of Chinese history, Su Ma Chien (who lived around 149 B.C.) refers to a tradition that the swamps of Central China were reclaimed by a legendary hero called "Yu the Great". Obviously this 'Yu' is none else than 'Manu' of the Vedic tradition. Thus the beginning of Chinese history from the Flood and from Manu also indicates that the Chinese tradition is also Vedic. The other clue we get is from the metamorphosis of Vedic, Sanskrit names. The term Manu has been robbed of its first syllable while only the last is retained as 'Yu'. But its association with the Flood enables us to identify the name as Manu.

The Simha Dynasty

According to current thinking Chinese culture starts with the

Shang dynasty (about 1500 B.C) . But the metal industry of that age is so advanced that historians surmise a long stretch of history to lie behind it. All such theories and counter-theories and the trial rejection method in the reconstruction of the ancient history of China serve to highlight their basic mistake. China like every other region of the world had a Vedic civilization with Sanskrit as its language. The name of the earliest dynasty 'Shang' is none other than the Sanskrit word Simha (सिंह) which came to be pronounced as Singh in North India, as Cing alias King in England and as Shang in China. The Chinese switch to ideographs was caused by some historical upheavel which cut off the Chinese region for a long stretch of time from its educational links with India.

The Chinese also refer to an earlier Hsia dynasty of 17 or 18 kings supposed to have ruled China from 2205 B.C. to 1765 B.C. when it was overthrown by "T' ang the Successful" founder of the Shang Dynasty.

Here again we bump against the same 5000-year barrier. The 1994 years of the Christian era added to the 2205 B.C. years mentioned above takes us almost to the early period after the Mahabharat war. Thus, as observed by us elsewhere, no matter which thread of history we pick-up viz. whether Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Roman, Egyptian or any other we reach a dead end at circa 3138 B.C., Therefore, it would be right to assume that until the Mahabharat war, like the rest of the world, China too spoke Sanskrit and practised Vedic Culture. After the war it gradually lapsed into a state of segregation and isolation developing a distinct identity in script, pronunciation, language and art.

The name of the earliest known ruling dynasty Hsia could be Ikshwaku, Hehaya or some such well-known Vedic Kshatriya dynasty of the past.

The conclusion is reinforced by the observation of Chinese historian Dr. Li-Chi who discovered an astonishing resemblance between the Chinese clay pottery and the pottery discovered at Mohenjadaro on the Indian continent and at Jamadat Nasar in

Mesopotamia. This pottery link-up corroborates our thesis of an ancient worldwide Vedic culture.

Both Sir L.Wooley aud Arnold Toynbee speak of an earlier readymade culture coming to China. They are right. That was the Vedic, Hindu culture from India with its Sanskrit language and sacred scripts. The contemporary astronomical expertise of the Chinese, as evidenced by their record of eclipses; the organizing of sacrifices to propitiate the deities of the astral phenomena, the philosophy of the Chinese and their statecraft all point to a Vedic origin.

That is why from the earliest of times we find Chinese travellers visiting India very often to renew their educational and spiritual links.

Taoism is Deva-ism

The Chinese philosopher Lao Tse propagated the Advaita (non-duality) philosophy of the Vedic tradition. The name of his 'Tao' philosophy has been completely misunderstood by all scholars, who have written on China so far. The Chinese word 'Tao' is nothing but the Sanskrit word 'Deva'. Consequently Taoism is Chinese Vedic Theism.

While on the one hand Chinese travellers and disciples continued to visit India in an unending trail to drink at the fountain-heads of knowledge, morality and spirituality here, corresponding groups of Indian teachers, astronomers and physicians kept visiting China on duty.

Yoga

Confucius, who lived around 500 B.C. mentions how he had given up Yogic meditation to set about to reform society. That is very strong proof of the deep roots that Yoga had struck in China long before Confucius, and consequently of China's Vedic past.

The ancient Indian monarch, Kanishka continued to maintain

during his own time the strong cultural links that India had with places as distant as Rome in the west and China in the east. Historians have hitherto misunderstood these as mere trade links or formal embassies. Those links should hereafter be recognised to be ancient Vedic Sanskrit links arising from the universal, unitary Vedic administration. But that unity, shattered by the Mahabharat war, gradually estranged the different regions of the world from one another and led to mere formal diplomatic and trade ties. *This new revolutionary concept of world history is the master-key which solves all riddles of history.*

The Mahavibhasha, composed at the directive of the Kashmir genral assembly of Buddhists in the 1st century A.D. is available in its Chinese version but its Sanskrit original in India got destroyed at the hands of Muslim invaders.

Chinese chronicles record the visit to China of Indian sages Kashyap, Milangee and Dharmaratna in the 1st century A.D.

Kumarajiva, a prince of Tokharistan (Chinese Turkistan), of which Kucha was the capital city, stayed in China from 412 A.D. onwards along with a large band of teachers. Kucha was a great centre of Sanskrit learning even in Huentsang's time, i.e. the 7th century A.D. The Kuchan alphabet was Indian. Neighbouring Khotan was also steeped in Sanskrit learning upto the 8th century A.D. Numerous Sanskrit manuscripts were discovered in this Central Asian region, including a large library of thousands of scrolls inside a subterranean cave by Sir Auriel Stein. The writing was in Brahmi characters both on the scrolls and on the frescoes on the cave-walls.[6]

Regional names ending in the syllable 'Sthan' as in Turkistan, Khotan, Afghanistan, and those ending in 'ia' as in Austria, Russia and Australia should be immediately identified as of Vedic Sanskritic origin. In fact their spelling should, wherever possible, be reformed to conform to the original Sanskrit word.

The underground caves of the type referred to above are ancient

6. Footnote on page 18, Aryatarangini, Vol. II

haunts of Vedic studies, found all over the world. This detail needs to be specifically noted by historians.

Another important historical deduction that needs to be noted by all students of history and culture, is that *all renowned cities throughout the ancient world such as Bokhara, Alexandria, Rome, Baghdad, Babylon, Samarkand, Moscow, Paris and London came to prominence because they were centres of Vedic learning. Trade etc. were only ancillary offshoots.*

Marco Polo, an Italian, travelled from Venice to China and has written his memoirs, which have been translated into English and edited by Sir Henry Yule. A footnote (page 76, Vol. 1) in that book mentions a temple at Canton, popularly known as the temple of 500 Gods. A photo of the temple is reproduced on the page facing page 82. Since Vedic deities run into millions, the temple in Canton was obviously of Vedic deities. In keeping with Vedic tradition, the pedestal of the deities is octagonal.

A porcelain incense-burner from China's Fo-Kien province and of the time of the Shang dynasty, now on display at the Louvere Museum in France, is also of the Vedic octagonal shape.

Another footnote on page 11 of Volume II states, "It was the custom of the (Chinese) ancients to worship those who were before them. Thus students worshipped their instructors, farmers worshipped the first husbandsman, workers in silk the original silk worker......when calamities come upon the land, the virtuous among the people make offerings to the spirits of earth and heaven, the mountains, rivers, streams etc....we find 58 temples of every variety in this little city (in Juhu) of about 2000 inhabitants. There is a temple to the spirits of wind, clouds, thunder and rains, to the god of silk workers, to the horse-god, to the god of locusts and (of) the eight destructive insects, to the five dragons, to the king who quiets the waves i.e. Varun. Besides these there are all the orthodox temples to the ancient worthies and some modern heroes."

The tradition of honouring and adoring the elders and of

recognizing that everything whether alive or inert matter is permeated by the divine soul, is typical of the Vedic doctrine. This indicates the primordial Vedic culture of China.

About Suju alias Su Chau city of Kiang-Han province Marco Polo records (Page 183, Vol. II of his memoirs) "Suju is a very great and noble city. The people are idolators. A sketch of the city of Su Chau reduced to 1/10 th scale from a rubbing of a plan inscribed on marble A.D. MCCX LVII is preserved in the great temple of Confucius.

A footnote adds "In the southern part of Su Chau is the park, surrounded by a high wall which contains the group of buildings called the Confucius temple. This is the Dragon's head....the Dragon street running directly north, is his body, and the great Pagoda is his tail. In front is a grove of cedars. To one side is a hall where thousands of scholars go to worship at the Spring and Autumn festivals...there. There is a building used for the slaughter of animals, another containing a map of the city engraved in stone, a third with tablets and astronomical diagrams, and a fourth containing the provincial library. On each side of the large courts are rooms where are placed the tablets of the 500 sages. The main temple is 50 by 70 ft, and contains the tablet of Confucius and a number of gilded boards with mottoes. On the stone-dial in front, a mat-shed is erected for the great sacrifices at which the official magnates exercise their sacerdotal functions. On the gateway infront the sage is called 'the Prince of Doctrines in Times Past and Present'.

The above details of the 500 sages and the Prince of Doctrines past and present all point to the Vedic tradition.

The Chinese dragon is apparently the great Cobra on whom Lord Vishnu, the supreme godhead reclines. This great reptile is found deified in almost every region from one end of the world to the other. We have referred to it time and again in different chapters of this volume. This universal involvement with the dragon is obviously of Vedic origin.

Town-Planning and Architecture

Ancient Chinese cities were built as per the rules laid down in the Vedic sciences of town-planning and architecture as is apparent from descriptions of several Chinese cities left by Marco Polo.

He notes that " the city of Kinsay stands as it were in water and surrounded by water. The document (of this city, stated that) there were in this city twelve guilds of different crafts and that each guild had 12,000 houses in occupation of its workmen. Each of these houses contains at least 12 men, whilst some contain 20 and some 40.... *It was an ordinance laid down by the king that every man should follow his father's business and no other*, no matter if he possessed 100,000 bezants. Inside the city there is a lake which has a compass of some 30 miles, and all round it are erected beautiful palaces and mansions, of the richest and most exquisite structure that you can imagine of the nobles of the city. There are also on its shores many abbeys and churches of the idolators. In the middle of the lake are two islands, on each of which stands a rich, beautiful and spacious edifice, furnished in such style as to seem fit for the palace of an emperor....If in daytime (the watch patrols) find any poor cripple unable to work for his livelihood they take him to one of the hospitals, of which there are many founded by ancient kings, and endowed with great revenues."[7]

On page 203 of Vol.II, Marco Polo mentions "Other streets are occupied by physicians and astrologers, who are also teachers of reading and writing. In each square are two palaces facing one another in which are established the officers to decide (disputes etc.)" *Such profession-wise arrangement of city sectors is typical of Vedic society.*

The tradition of having a central water reservoir inside the city and moats filled with water around cities and mansions, marking-out urban residential sectors for different guilds, the professions being hereditary, and temples dedicated to different idols, are all specialities of Vedic-culture.

(7) Pp. 186-188, Vol. II, Marco Polo's Memoirs.

Astrology

Likewise astrological considerations too had their importance in Chinese life. Marco Polo notes (p. 191, Vol. II of his memoirs) "As soon as a child is born (the people of this country) write down the day and hour and the planet and the sign under which its birth has taken place... when anyone intends a journey he goes to the astrologers. These astrologers are very skilful at their business, and often their words come to pass."

Cremation

The Chinese also practised cremation as ordained by Vedic practice, Marco Polo records "They burn the bodies of the dead... when anyone dies, friends and relatives make a great mourning for the deceased and clothe themselves in hempen garments and follow the corpse playing on a variety of instruments and singing hymns to their idols.[8]

".... Natives of the city are peaceful both from education and example of their kings... there is such fellow-feeling among both men and women that you would take the people who live in the same street to be all one family...... this family intimacy is free from all jealousy or suspicion of the conduct of their women. These they treat with the greatest respect, and the man who should presume to make loose proposals to a married woman would be regarded as an infamous rascal. They also treat foreigners with great cordiality and entertain them in the most winning manner, affording them every help and advice on their business."[9]

The above is a typical description of Vedic manners and traditions of ancient China.

On page 212 of Vol. II of Marco Polo's memoirs is the picture of a stone pillar carved with lotus patterns along its entire length. It is stated to be a stone Chwang, i.e. an Umbrella Column. Obviously

(8) P. 191, Vol. II, Marco Polo's Memoirs.

(9) Pp. 204-205 ibid

the Sanskrit word 'Chhatra' is being pronounced as 'Chwang' in Chinese. This should serve to illustrate to everybody how the Chinese languages are all Sanskrit distorted with a Chinese twang.

Temple of Brahma

Facing page 212 of Marco Polo's memoirs is a map of the city of Hang Chau. Just inside the walls of the city was located the temple of Brahma as shown in the map. That temple, long destroyed by invaders is now marked by two columns bearing some Buddhist inscriptions. The columns retain the name and mark the site of the temple. These columns date from the 6th century and are some of the earliest relics extant in China.

The temple of Brahma is emphatic proof of the existence of Vedic culture in ancient China. And since, according to Vedic tradition Brahma appeared on top of a lotus stem emerging from the navel of Lord Vishnu, it is appearent that the dragon so common in Chinese tradition is the cobra on which Lord Vishnu reclines.

It may be argued that the pattern of the Chinese dragon is different from the cobra shown in Vishnu's pictures. That is because of the peculiar Chinese twist to which Vedic tradition is subject in every sphere, over a long period of time.

The Significance of Eight

"Around the great white pagoda in Peking are 108 pilliars for illumination. At Gautam Buddha's birth 108 Brahmans were summoned to foretell his destiny.....Parushuram established (in Malabar) 108 places of worship (i.e. temples), Bharat has 108 holy places of pilgrimage and 108 Upanishads, the rules of the Chinese Triad Society assign 108 blows as the punishment for certain offences. According to Athenians the suitors of Penelope were 108."[10]

The figures 8, 108, and 1008 have a special sanctity in Vedic tradition. They recur in a number of sacred contexts in Vedic life

(10) P.347, Vol. II, ibid.

namely eight directions, their eight celestial guards, eight attainments of Yoga, an 8-metal-alloy used to make an idol or a temple pinnacle, the 8 divisions of the science of medicine, the eight sacred chants at a wedding, eight recitations of a holy mantra, the 8 times, 108 times or 1008 times blessed gurus, the 8-limb prostration (Sashtang Namaskar), a personality of 8 facets, the eight talents of a person, etc.

In View of that importance of the figure eight, it is clear that countries from Athens to China which followed that octo-numeral tradition were adherents of Vedic culture.

Sanskrit Inscriptions

There appear to have been Sanskrit inscriptions too in ancient China but these were destroyed from time to time and have remained generally unknown to the outside world. A mention of one such Sanskrit inscription is found on page 28 of Volume I of Marco Polo's memoirs.

The footnote records "At the village of Kenyung Kwan, 40 miles north of Peking, in the sub-prefecture of Chang Ping, in the Chin-li province, on the road Peking to Kalgan, beyond the pass of Nankau, under an archway, a view of which will be found at the end of this volume, were engraved in 1345 A.D., two large inscriptions in six different languages-Sanskrit, Tibetan, Mongol, Bashpah, Uighur, Chinese and a language unknown till recently. A much better facsimile of these inscriptions than Wylie's has since been published by Prince Roland Bonaparte in his valuable Recueil des Documents de L'Epoque Mongole."

Similarly "The annals of the Ming dynasty, which succeeded the Mongols in China, mention the establishment in the 11th Moon of the 5th Year yong-10 (1407 -A.D.) of the Sse Yi Kwan, a linguistic office for d plom c purposes. The languages to be studied were Niuche, Mongol, Tibetan, Sanskrit, Bokharan, Uighur, Burmese and Siamese."[11]

(11) P. 29, Vol. I. ibid, footnote.

Sanskrit was thus an international language even as late as the 15th century as is apparent from the above footnote. The more we go back in time, the wider and more frequent was its use. From time immemorial upto the Mahabharat era Sanskrit was the only language of human speech. Thereafter with the break-up of the unitary, universal Vedic administration, use of Sanskrit gradually tapered down.

The fact that China has throughout ancient history looked upto India for guidance in all matters such as religious, spiritual and educational ought to enable historians to realize that China too adhered to Vedic culture and spoke Sanskrit. *That such important clues and leads have been allowed to remain unutilized, points to the need for a second look at and reform of historical research methodology.*

Likewise the Buddhism of China should be realized to be a new edition of its earlier Hinduism. Even this clue went unnoticed. At least now it should be realized that every Buddhist country was a Vedist, Hindu, country earlier. Incidentally this should also serve to clarify that Buddhism was never meant to be a new religion. It was just a new edition of Hinduism. That is why it was not misunderstood as a substitute for Hinduism in India itself.

Like Japan China has been misunderstood to be a Buddhist country for a few thousand, years. But for millions of years China and Japan have both been Vedic alias Hindu countries.

Archaeologists excavating beneath the ruins of brahmanical temples at the eastern coast city of Quangzhou have come across stone engravings of 'Sri Krishna,' 'Hanuman', 'Goddess of wealth' 'Lakshmi' and the divine bird 'Garuda', according to Dr. Yang Quinzhang of the local Museum.

Many of the engravings which have come to light during excavations, continuing since 1934 when a 1.15 meter high stone statue of a multi-limbed Vishnu was unearthed at Janjiaochang in Quangzhou, bear a close resemblance to the traditional engravings of ancient India, mentions Dr. Yang in his correspondence with

Dr. V. V. Bedekar, Director of the Institute of Oriental Study at Thana, in India.

As many as 73 stone-engravings of Vishnu in his well-known 'Narasimha' form of half-man and half-lion have been found during the course of excavations. Remains of temple structures depict popular scenes from Vaishnava lore like Vishnu rescuing an elephant from a crocodile and tearing open the stomach of a demon king to save his great devotee 'Prahlad' says Dr. Yang.

Likewise numerous engraved portraits of Shiva in the company of his consort 'Parvati' in the Himalayas, in ascetic garments holding a trident and shown as having a lean athletic body with narrow waist and broad chest, besides scenes of the bull, elephant and other animals bowing before him, have been beautifully sculpted in stone at the temples believed to have flourished during the Yuan dynasty and devastated in the civil war at the end of the dynasty.

Architectural similarities

Dr. Yang observes that one of the temples bears a striking resemblance in architecture to the Meenakshi temple at Madurai in Tamilnadu.

Engraved pictures of Sri Krishna at Quanzhou show the cow-boy saving two sons of Kubera, romancing with seven girls bathing in the Yamuna and routing the "Nagaraja" (Snake king) in a river. A fight between Krishna and Garuda is also depicted.

While no image of 'Lord Rama' has yet been found in the relics, the figure of 'Hanuman', the devotee of Rama, is found among engravings on a stone door frame, Dr. Yang states.

Among the several pictures of the gold-winged bird 'Garuda' the most outstanding is one showing Vishnu riding the bird on his way to save an elephant, Airavat, the mount of Lord Indra.

One such relic is a Tamil tablet datd 1281, A. D. which indicates the presence of a south Indian community of merchants who appealed to the Yuan Government of the period to raise a Hindu (Vedic)

temple there.

Whereas all traces of other Hindu temples of that time were wiped out in the subsequent civil wars, relics of the Quanzhou temple remain. Archaeologists, who have been excavating there since 1934 have unearthed a 1.15 metre stone statue of a four-armed Vishnu, holding a musical instrument and a Vajra.

Other statues discovered are those of Shiva, a four-armed goddess and a lingam. There are also octagonal Hindu columns and pillars bearing the figures of Hanuman and Krishna.

The Chinese, in fact, believe Hanuman, ''The Monkey god'' to be the archetype of Sun Wukong in the Chinese novel'' ''A Pilgrimage of India'' written by Wu Chengen during the Ming Dynasty period (1368-1644)

The relics were put on display at the Quanzhou museum for a special UNESCO team that was visiting major centres along the ancient silk trade route. Quanzhou has long been considered the starting point of the maritime silk route.

Museum officials told the team that more than 300 Hindu artefacts had been uncovered since the excavations began in the 1930s. In fact the dedication of the Quanzhou temple in 1281 was ''preceded'' wrote John Guy, a specialist in South Indian art at London's Victoria and Albert museum, by the despatch from Quanzhou of a Mongol envoy, Yang Ting-pi to India, underscoring the reciprocal nature of this relationship.

Another interesting site with an Indian connection is the ''Jiu ri'' (the nine-day hill) where travellers went to beg the wind for a favourable sea journey. There stands the ''rock of Buddhist text translation.'' The story goes that it was on this and other rocks and in the nearby jungles that an Indian monk lived and translated certain Buddhist texts.

The above item published in the Indian Express dated Feb 23, 1961 betrays universal ignorance of contemporary intelligentsia. To imagine that China has only a few stray relics of Hinduism

to show here and there is a great blunder.

The pre-Christian world followed Vedic (Hindu) culture. China was a part of it. Therefore China has been and still is a fully Vedic (Hindu) country.

The Mahabharat epic records that the Chinese were drawn into the war between the Kauravas the Pandavas (because they were Hindus alias followers of Vedic culture).

When the Buddha attained fame as a (Vedic) monk Hindu alias Vedic principles of behaviour began being quoted and stressed in Buddha's name.

At that juncture India lost its world hegemony. Consequently what survived in public memory was Buddha's name as the authority in all spiritual matters. That led to countries from Burma to Japan being misunderstood and misrepresented as Buddhist though in fact they are Vedic (Hindu) regions.

Hindu China

It is not generally realized that all countries which are these days Buddhist, Christian or Muslim were earlier Hindu i. e. adherents of Vedic culture. China finds mention in several ancient Sanskrit texts including the Mahabharat as being part of a worldwide Vedic order

A Chinese official himself described China's ancient adherence to Hinduism. Addressing the C. P. Ramaswamy Foundation in Madras on Marth 27, 1984 Yusg Xianji, member of the Chinese Peoples's Political Consultative committee said - that recent discoveries of the ruins of ancient Hindu temples in south-east China provided further evidence of the prevalence of Hinduism in ancient China. Buddhism was only an offshoot of Hinduism. Even after the propagation of Buddhism, Hinduism continued to prevail. In the 6th century both the religions were patronized by Chinese ruling families. For two generations the royal family was Hindu. The succeeding Tang dynasty (7th to 9th Century A. D.) also patronized both the religions. Consequently the[illegible] religious wars. The

Chinese worshipped Goddess Durga calling her Sivambhu.

The resurgence of Hinduism and decline of Buddhism in India after 7th century found its echo in China with temples of Mahadeva (i. e. Lord Shiva) coming up. The priests in them were Hindu too.

Hinduism reached its peak in China during the Sui dynasty around the sixth century when members of a Chinese ruling family were known by their Hindu pet names such as Narayana and Shiv Dasa.

Hinduism still exists in China in the guise of Buddhism. Buddhist monasteries have the Hindu touch and many of them could be mistaken for Hindu temples as they are full of icons similar to those found in the Hindu pantheon. Buddha was regarded as a Vedic deity.

Thailand's Vedic Heritage

Siam alias Thailand is one of the countries dedicated to Lord Rama. The present monarch is **Bhumipal Atulya Teja**, Rama the 9th. It is reminiscent of the just and benevolent regime envisaged as under the incarnation, Lord Rama.

The very first king of the present Chakri dynasty, Rama the 1st wrote the only complete version of the Ramayana in Thai language. His successor Rama II adapted it for being presented on the stage. King Rama the 6th used the classical Ramayana of Valmiki and today it is the best known version in Thailand.

The Ramayana is played on the Thai stage throughout the country. There are statues of king Rama holding the bow and arrow, in the capital Bangkok. The story of Rama is painted in a number of religious monuments such as Prasad Phnom Rung and Prasad Hin Pimai. In the temple of the Emerald Buddha in Bangkok fantastic mural Ramayanic paintings can be seen along the galleries.

There are low reliefs at Wat Phrae Chetubhon (चेतुभन)

The University of Fine Arts has special courses on the performance of Shadow-play and Mask dance of the Ramakien which is the Thai pronunciation of the Sanskrit word Rama Kirti.

Inscriptions of the 14th century mention the names of various places called Rama Cave, Sita Cave and other names based on the Rama story. The capital of Thailand was Ayuthya alias Ayodhya from 1350 to 1767.

His excellency Mr. Sukich Nimmaheninda said in 1963 that Bangkok is the Thai way of pronouncing Vara-nagara and that Thai literary works refer to Bangkok as "क्रुङ देव महा नगर अमर रत्न कोसिन्द्र राजधानी पुरी रम्या उत्तम पर राज निवेशन महा स्थान."

Ratna Koushindra is the name of the present ruling dynasty. Bangkok is thus Ayodhya. Thailand has been ruled by Rama kings who reside in Ayodhya. Rama and Ayodhya are the earth and sky of the Hindu Buddhist mind. President Suharto of Indonesia exhorts his ministers to follow the Asta-brata (अष्टव्रत) of the Ramayana Kakawin in Old Javanese.

The course of history has enriched several countries with a living tradition of the Ramayana in the literary, plastic and performing arts. They provide ideas and ideals, values and achievements, in fact, the quality of life of these countries. It is fit and proper that these nations come together as a commonwealth of Ramayana countries to endow the coming century with nobility of mind in the dynamism of action. The Ramayana ideals can inspire the future science and technology with the depths of culture.

The municipal symbol of Bangkok is Lord Ganesha. The Thai script is of Indian origin. It goes back to the great King Rama Kham Raeng of Sukhohai dynasty. He instituted the present Thai alphabet in 1283 A. D. Sanskrit words appear here, there and everywhere in Thailand. Following are some of the words used there.

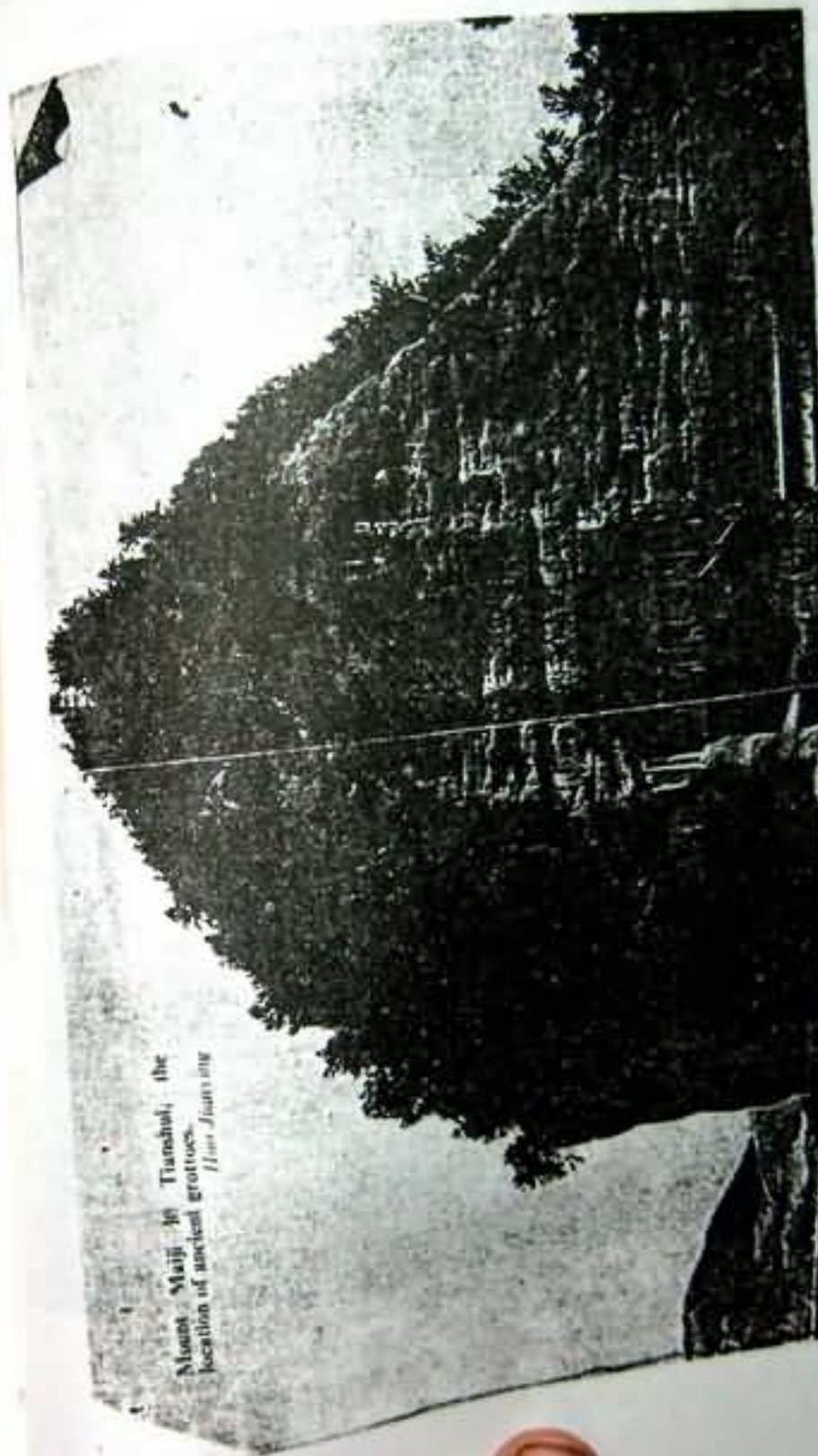
कथा - discourse
कथाशेष - a dead person
कपट लेख - forged document
कर्म जल मार्ग - irrigation department

कर्म लोह कुल्य - mining department
त्रिकोणमिती - trigonometry
बीजगणित - algebra
Rath Yantra = Bicycle = Rotjon
Rath Chakra Yantra = Automobile, Rot-chaka-jon.

Therefore to be a scholar of Siamese one has to be a scholar of Sanskrit.

♦♦

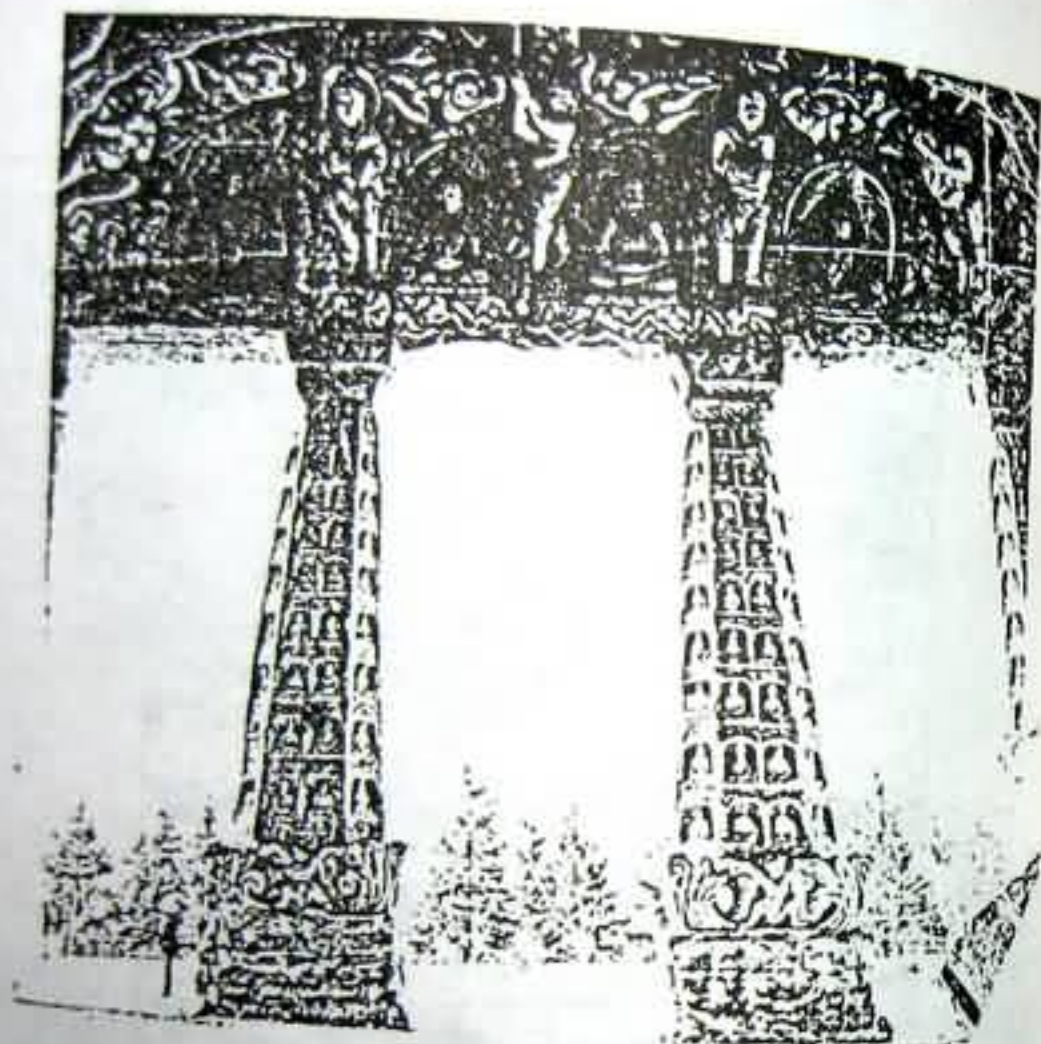
Kanchan Buri alias Kanchan Puri in Thailand has this idol of Lord Ganesh in the temple known as Wat Khao Khe Theprimitwanaram.

Ganesh the municipal symbol of Bangkok, the capital of Thailand

Mount Maiji in Tianshui, the location of ancient grottoes.

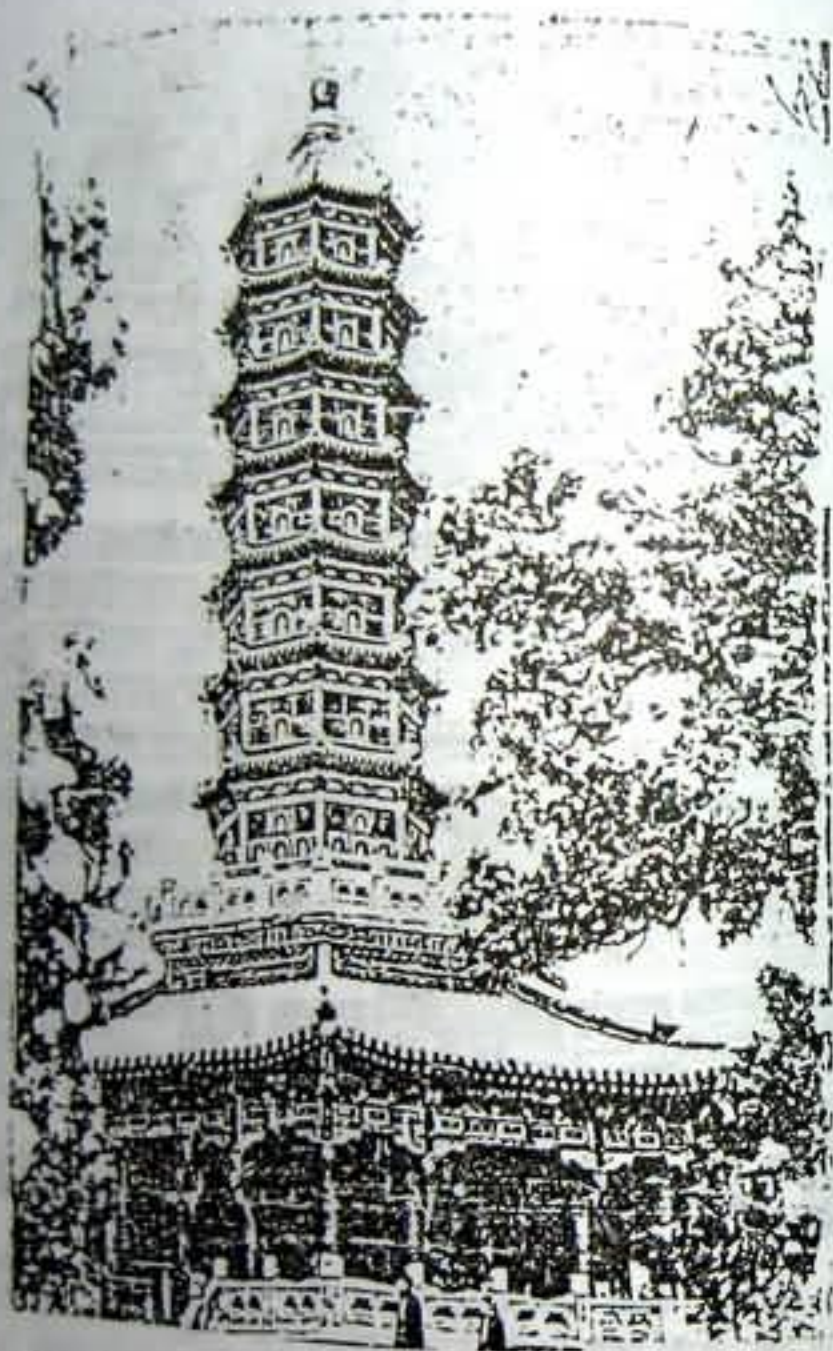
Caves in Mount Maiji in Tianshui, China used as a Vedic hermitage school.

A Vedic ceremony at the Fu Xi temple in ancient China

Pirmide de la Luna i. e. Moon Pyramid at San Juan Teotihuacan, Mexico. The Moon Temple at the top of the hillock could have been destroyed by invading Christian zealots. Teotihuacan is the Sanskrit term Devata Kanan i. e. the Divine Forest Bower

A Vedic temple of ancient China with a lotus-petal border of its courtyard and spires of Kailas in lotus design.

Entrance to a temple in ancient China. Note the lotus-petal design at the base of the pillars and figures of Gods and angels at the top.

Turkey too retains at several places pre-islamic shrines with Vedic lotus designs

An ancient Vedic temple in China with spires at four corners and one in the centre akin to the *four cupolas* around the dome on the Taj Mahal alias Tejomahalaya, Agra, and the *Katakeshwar* Shiv temple in Aurangabad misbelieved to be Bibi-Ka-Makabara.

The octagonal spire of an ancient Vedic temple in China, The octagon is a Vedic trait.

Octagonal pavilion with an octagonal roof-top of the Yonghegong Tibetan temple in Beiging city.

Vedic Saraswati mounted on a swan, playing on the stringed instrument Veena. The pedestal is designed like the sacred letter (om ॐ).

Such images of Lord Shiva of ancient China were proclaimed to be those of Buddha later.

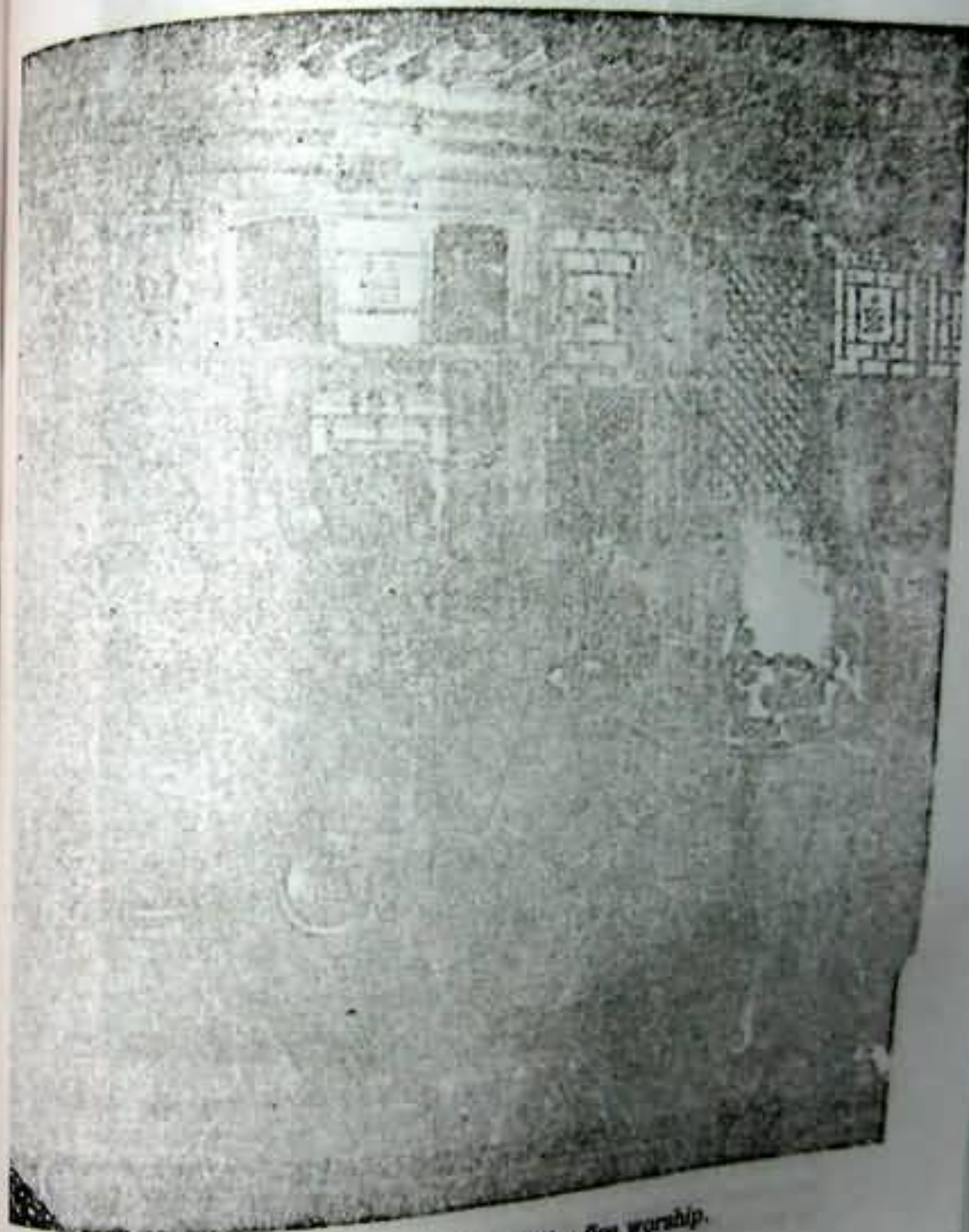
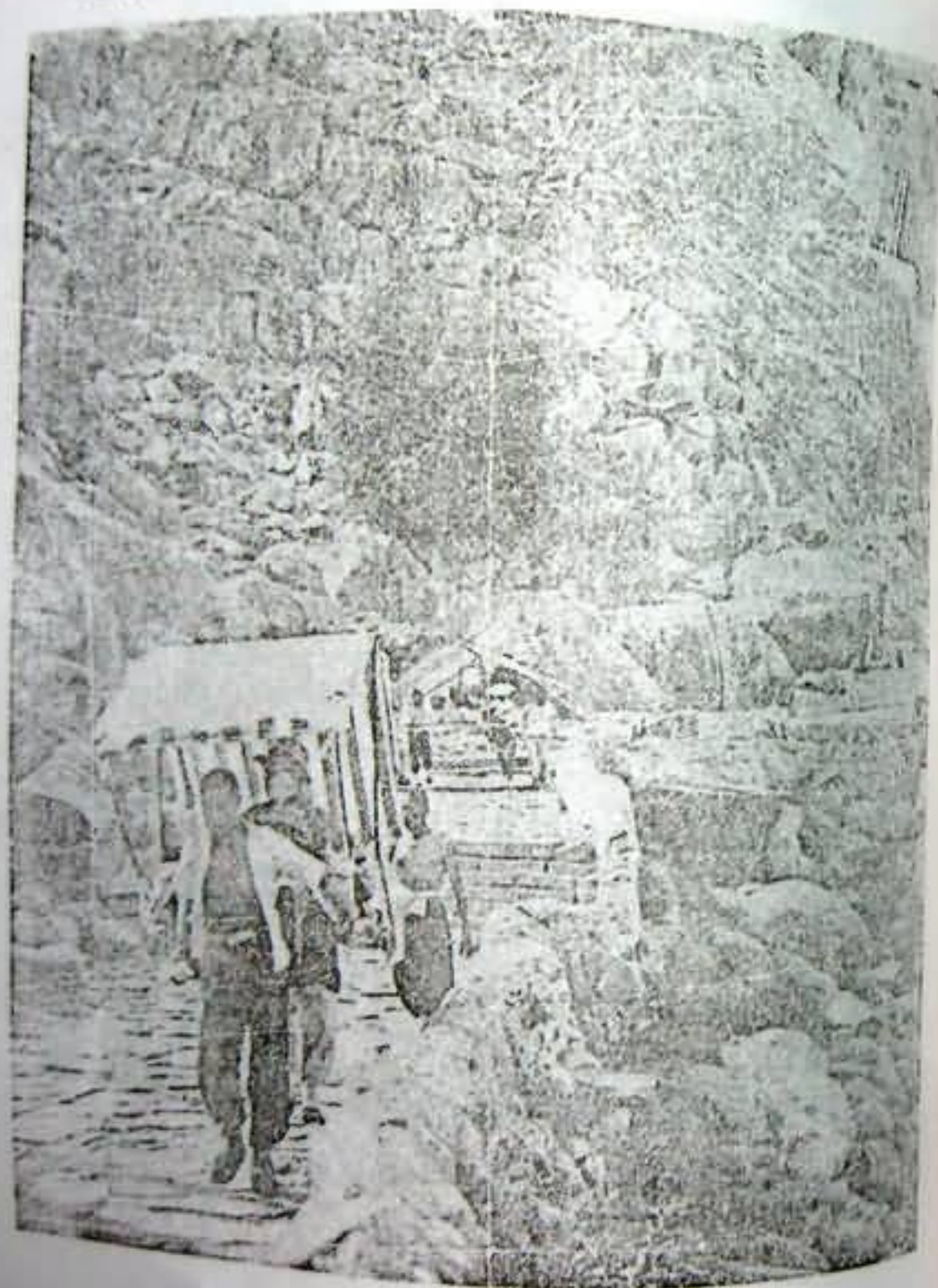
Sahasrabahu, the Vedic deity with a thousand arms is called Guanyin in China.

A Vedic deity mounted on a swan-shape pedestal and a lotus base of ancient China.

A representation of the Vedic goddess Mahakali Durga consecrated in China from time immemorial.

Indra, the Vedic deity mounted on his elephant Airavat in a temple in China.

A number of Vedic deities seated on a lotus design base in an ancient Chinese temple.

Chinese devotees climbing holy mountains to visit various temples.

For prosperity Chinese offer fire worship.

Statues from Leptis Magna (near Carthage) found in archaeological excavations illustrate how women in the Roman empire wore sarees as in India. This is one of the innumerable proofs of the prevalence of Vedic culture throughout the pre-Christian and pre-Islamic world. Carthage is an ancient Phoenician city on the north coast of Africa, near, Tunis (Photo reproduced from page 301 of the volume titled ''In Search of Lost Worlds,'' by Henry Paul Eydoux, published by Paul Hamlin, U.K.)

An octagonal *roof-top tower* on an octagonal plinth outside an ancient Vedic temple in *China*.

Lamps lighted in their hundreds for a Deepavali-type festival in China.

El Templo de Quetzelcoatl, at San Juan at Tectihuacan, Mexico. One dragon alias crocodile-head seen at the top and another in the niche below is the Makara associated with Vedic temples. The 'cotal' termination signifies an enclave surrounded by a defensive wall, in Sanskrit.

Vedic Goddess Lakshmi in China standing, on a lotus base as in India.

THE VEDIC PAST OF KOREA AND MANCHURIA

Like most other countries Korea does not know the origin of its name. That is because it has long since been cut off from its Vedic moorings.

It may be noticed that regions and countries such as Russia, Siberia, Manchuria, Korea, and Syria have a common ending sounding as 'eeya.' That is a Sanskrit termination signifying 'a region of....'.

Gauriya

Another factor to be remembered in the case of Korea is that its initial letter 'K' is a substitute for the Sanskrit letter 'G'. An instance of this is that the Sanskrit word 'Gow' is spelled in English as 'Cow'. Likewise the Sanskrit name Gauriya came to be pronounced in course of time as Goriya and later as Korea.

Gauri is a Vedic goddess. She is the consort of Lord Shiva. As such she was worshipped as the Mother Goddess throughout the ancient Vedic world. Since she was the principal deity of the Korean region that region has derived its name Gauriya alias Korea from Her.

Manjushriya

Likewise Manchuria derives its name from another Vedic Goddess, Manjushri. In course of time 'ju' was pronounced as 'chu' and consequently Manjushriya came to be spelled as Manchuria i.e. the region venerating Goddess Manjushri.

Acupuncture

Currently acupuncture is misbelieved to have originated in China. Consequently, it is often mistakenly referred to as Chinese acupuncture. But in Korean academies students are rightly told that acupuncture originated in India. An ancient Sanskrit text on acupuncture is also said to be preserved in the Ceylonese National Museum at Colombo in Sri Lanka.

Influence

Scholars everywhere talk vaguely of an Indian 'influence'. Thus in dealing with the language, customs and traditions of any region in the world from Tibet to Timbuktu scholars are sure to detect some 'influence' or rather a 'strong influence' of india (which really means the Vedic civilization).

Such vague talk of 'influence' must hence-forward be abandoned. How and why should India be able to influence the whole world? Obviously scholars haven't grasped the implication of it.

The simple solution to that puzzle is that the Vedic civilization and Sanskrit language had pervaded the whole world from the beginning of time upto the rise of Christianity.

With the rise of Christianity and Islam the rest of the world was gradually wrenched away from the Vedic civilization during the last 2000 years.

But India, despite its long drawn-out struggle against an aggressive Islam, has managed to retain its Vedic culture to a large extent. Hinduism signifies that culture.

When scholars all the world over detect unmistakable streaks of lingering Vedic culture and Sanskrit (akin to those in India) still decipherable in different regions of the world they call it Indian 'influence'. But detecting similarities is one thing while satisfactorily explaining them is quite another. World scholars have failed in providing a rational explanation. That is why we, all the time,

hear them talking of Indian influence. *The real answer to that worldwide, eternal puzzle is that India still overwhelmingly retains the very same Vedic culture which the world used to profess for millions of years in the pre-Christian era.*

Therefore, none should talk of a mere Indian influence in ancient Korea. What needs to be understood is that Korea too used to be a Vedic, Hindu country until it lost touch with India due to historical upheavals. That Vedic past of Korea and Manchuria is apparent from their names deriving respectively from Goddess Gauri and Goddess Manjushri.

The Solar Dynasty

The name of a 1st century Korean King was Kim Suro. That latter term Suro is the Sanskrit word Surya i.e. 'the Sun' or Sura i. e. God. According to Vedic tradition one illustrious line of Vedic rulers claimed descent from the Sun. They were thence known as Suryavanshi i.e. of solar lineage. Kim Suro was one such. All lands were administered by Vedic Kshatriyas of the solar dynasty. Japanese sovereigns too belong to the solar dynasty.

The Wedding

What is more, the Korean monarch had a marital connection with the most illustrious solar dynasty which had its capital at Ayodhya in India, in which Lord Rama, the incarnation was born a million years ago.

Korea's earliest recorded history refers to that charming princess of Ayodhya who arrived in Korea by sea in 49 A.D. 'obeying a heavenly command'. Her husband, the Vedic Kshatriya ruler of the Korean region is said to have been nine feet tall.

Gaya

The capital of Korea at that time was Kaya. According to the rule explained earlier the original Sanskrit name of the city was Gaya. Just as the Gauriya region came to be spelled as Korea, the capital city Gaya came to be spelled as Kaya.

Since Gaya, in India, is a very sacred place of pilgrimage where people pay homage at the shrine of Vishnu's holy footprint, it is obvious that Gaya (alias Kaya) in Korea too had a temple of Lord Vishnu as its chief shrine. Under the Vedic administration every ruler on earth wields authority over his realm on behalf of Lord Vishnu.

The Kim clan was a very powerful solar dynasty which held sway over the Korean region. Kim is a corruption of the Sanskrit term Simha i.e. lion. Several noblemen from the royal Vedic Korean court at Kaya dominated the 7th century royal court in Japan. Incidentally this indicates that Japanese tradition too was homogeneously Vedic.

It is well known that Vedic Kshatriyas always intermarried whether within India or abroad. Accordingly we detect in the details given above that there used to be marital ties between the administrators of India, Korea and Japan.

Buddhism, a Hindu Cult

Buddhism is officially claimed to have become the national faith of Korea in 372 A.D. But that was only a revamping of the earlier Vedic culture which already existed all over the world.

This is one of those pitfalls which often ensnare scholars. When they come across the date 372 A.D. when Korea formally accepted Buddhism, they presume that Korea's links with India must have started in 372 A.D. And then when they come across details like the marriage of an Ayodhyan princess to a Korean prince and the name of their capital being Kaya (alias Gaya) much earlier, historians are baffled. They are not able to solve the riddle. But there is no anomaly involved if scholars grasp the thesis expounded in this volume namely that throughout the world, Vedic civilization and Sanskrit language had existed from time immemorial until Buddhism, Christianity and Islam seemed to replace it.

Secondly it is also wrong to interpret Buddhism as a separate religion and rival faith. Buddha was a Hindu prince turned monk

who gave discourses on Vedic culture. He never abandoned Vedic culture. Never did he set up a rival faith. But as a most famous Hindu of his age his sayings and interpretations of Vedic culture were often quoted everywhere. It was that constant repetition and association of his name with ageold Vedic doctrines which made people misunderstand him as the founder of a different faith. Buddha must be recognized to be a Hindu monk and preacher and nothing more.

Cherpu

At a township called Cherpu in Korea is an ancient temple of the Vedic goddess Bhagawati. Many places and objects thus associated with the ancient Gaya (Kaya) kingdom of Korea bear out strong Vedic, Sanskrit links.

Considering all such evidence it is necessary to look upon the histories of ancient India and Korea as being part of a global Sanskrit, Vedic culture from the beginning of time.

Pagoda

The term Bhagswati was in course of time pronounced as Bhagodi and later as Pagodi leading to the term 'pagoda' (meaning a temple) and also a coin (pagodi) bearing the imprint of Bhagawati, the Mother Goddess. Those two terms 'pagoda' and 'pagodi' are yet further proof of the prevalence of Vedic culture throughout the ancient world. This instance also serves as one more reminder that 'p' and 'b' replaced each other when the breakup of worldwide Sanskrit tuition led to regional corruptions of Sanskrit hardening into modern languages.

Directional Deities

Vedic tradition recognizes ten directions including four cardinal ones (North, South, East, West), four bisectional directions (Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest) and the heaven above and the nether world.

Each of these ten directions are guarded by a specific deity.

Since ancient Korea was a Vedic country, it used to have icons and paintings of those deities receiving public obeisance and reverence.

Some of them are on display in the British Museum, London. As one climbs down the stairs from the Map Library one notices two paintings on either side of the landing. The two captions to them read—

1) To Wen (Vaisravana), guardian of the North, One of four Lokapalas, Korean—probably 1536 A.D.

2) Tseng Chang (Virudhaka), guardian of the South. One of the four Lokapalas, Korean—probably 1536 A.D.

Students of eastern regions such as China, Korea and Vietnam may notice from the above how ancient Vedic Sanskrit names and words have been made completely unrecognizable by imparting to them a Chinese-type twang. That shows how modern research has been put completely off the track and off the scent. Just as Arabs were wont to give an Arabic-Islamic twist to Sanskrit–Vedic words and names, China and other eastern nations were habituated to give those same words a peculiar Chinese 'ting-ling' kind of twist. Researchers must hereafter learn to penetrate those Arabic and Chinese sound barriers and start to identify what the original Sanskrit Vedic names and words were.

THE VEDIC PAST OF WEST ASIA

Iraq and Iran are both Sanskrit words. The root common to them is "ir". It is that same root which has led to names like Irawati (a river in Burma), and words like "ire", and "irritation". "Iranam" the original Sanskrit name of Iran, applies in Sanskrit to salty and barren lands. Both Iran and Iraq share a border-region named "Mosul". That name derives from the Moosal alias missile which exploded after the Mahabharat war, as described in the Mahabharat, and contaminated the Dwarka region. As a result the entire clan of the Yadavas had to evacuate that territory.

They left in groups and some of them found shelter on the frontier shared by Iraq and Iran, as they are currently known. That region is since known as Mosul because it was turned into a refugee settlement to accommodate the Yedu tribes which were displaced by an exploding Moosal alias missile. This tragic happening is vividly described in the Mousal Parva (i.e.Chapter) of the Mahabharat. In that age Iraq and Iran both formed part of Sur alias Syria region. Since Lord Krishna was a Sur (सुर), after His death His followers and subjects, the Yadavas naturally found shelter in that region which later came to be named as Mosul.

Origin of the term Musalman

Those Yadava refugees were known as Moosalmanav i.e. human beings alias people displaced by the Moosal. That is why "Moslem" is also an alternate spelling of the term Musalman. This is thus a pre-Mohamad term. Etymologically the term Musalman alias Moslem does not signify a Mahomedan. Etymologically they are people who, thousands of years prior to the birth of Mohamed left the Dwarka kingdom because of a missile holocaust.

The above explanation is of great historical import in several respects. Firstly, it points out that the word Musalman alias Moslem is much anterior to Mahomad. Secondly, it proves dictionaries wrong which explain the term Muslim as a follower of Mohamed. Thirdly, it incidentally leads to the conclusion that the modern term missile is in fact a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit term Mosal. Fourthly, it also helps us to understand that the European "Man" alias "Mum" is but a corruption of the Sanskrit word "Manav".

Temples Turned into Mosques and Tombs

All ancient, historic buildings in Iraq and Iran though currently advertized as mosques and tombs are, in fact, all captured and misused Vedic shrines. It has been standard practice for Muslims to capture other people's properties, buildings, towns, cities men and women, clamp new Muslim names on them and claim all of them to be Muslim. Historians have totally missed this fact. Islam has from its very inception been spread with torture, terror and capture. Anything captured from a non-Muslim i.e. Kafir, became "halaal" (i.e. purified and admissible) for Muslim use. Thus other people's captured women were used as concubines in Muslim harems to breed illegitimate (under human laws but "legitimate" under the law of Islamic despotism) Muslim progeny. Men captured and suffered to remain alive were terrorised into professing Islam. Naturally the temples, monasteries, shrines, schools, homes, mansions, palaces, towns and cities were all captured, and hastily proclaimed to be Muslim.

Let the academic and bureaucratic world, therefore, realise and note that all great big buildings throughout the world which have been hailed in encyclopaedias, historical texts and architectural tomes as being creations of Islam in Mecca, [illegible] Jerusalem, Cordova, Baghdad, Istanbul, Bokhara, Samarkand [illegible] all other people's

captured properties pressed into Muslim service by uprooting idols, raising cenotaphs and grafting Koran. All books purporting to describe traits of Muslim architecture, have therefore misinterpreted impositions as evidence of original authorship and construction.

Baghdad is Bhagwad Nagar

The term Baghdad itself is significant. The original Sanskrit name of that city was Bhagwad Nagar implying that it was a city founded in the name of Lord Krishna. Readers may recall the name Bhagawad Geeta, the famous discourse delivered by Lord Krishna. The term 'Nagar' signifying 'a township' dropped out and in course of time Bhagwad came to be pronounced as Baghdad.

The family name of Iraq's ruling dynasty was Barmak. Edward Sachau who has translated AlBiruni's memoirs, has said in the preface to that volume that Paramak, the head-priest of the Nav-Vihar monastery when converted to Islam became the ruler. Paramak i.e. Pramukh and Nav-Vihar are Sanskrit words which were later malpronounced as Barmak and Navbahar respectively. This is additional evidence of the existence of Vedic-Sanskrit culture in pre-Muslim Iraq.

Names of Persian Monarchs

Terms like Cyrus and Darius of Iranian monarchs, are Greek corruptions of Sanskrit words Suresh i.e. Lord of the Gods and Dhairyesh i.e. the Courageous Lord.

The modern ruling-dynasty of Iran, Pahlvi is an ancient Kshatriya name found in the Vedic legend in which sage Vishwamitra tries to forcibly drive-away with the celestial cow, Kamadhenu, belonging to sage Vashista. The Pahlvis are mentioned among the Kshatriya tribes which intercede on Vashista's behalf.

Royal Iranian Titles

Among the titles of the Iranian monarch is one which proclaims him as 'Arya-mihir' i.e. the (resplendent) Sun of the Arya (i.e.Vedic) culture. Monarchs in India too had parallel titles such

as Dharmaditya, Pratapaditya and Vikramaditya. There too the last syllable 'aditya' signifies the (shining) Sun. Aditya and Mihir are synonyms. The term 'synonym' itself is the Sanskrit word Sama-nama (सम-नाम) i.e. 'similar name.'

Royal Emblem

The Persian royal insignia too is an emblem of ancient Vedic world administrators. It depicts a globe under the left fore-paw of a lion, holding an erect sword in the right fore-paw. Ancient Kshatriya administrators of the world Vedic administration had the word Simha (i.e.) 'Lion' as the last syllable of their name such as Jagatsimha, Udaisimha and Mansimha (also spelled as Singh) because they were trained to be brave as lions in protecting their realms and subjects.

The globe under the paw signified a world administration while the erect sword connoted stern, strict and instantaneous chastisement.

Iranian Muslim Devotee of Vishnu

Even after Arab invaders forcibly converted Iranians to Islam Vedic culture limped and lingered on in Iran in different forms. Muslim writers all the world over, however, tend to assiduously blot-out all such evidence.

Such evidence is found in the writing mostly of non-Muslims. Arminius Vambery is one such Hungarian writer who has travelled extensively through several Muslim countries.

Near Shiraz city in Iran is a village named Saadi. The village gets its name from poet Saadi who is buried there. This Saadi, a Muslim by birth was a devotee of the Vedic deity Vishnu. How is that possible unless several Iranian families still somehow retained their Vedic traditions through some indistinct links, which need to be closely investigated by probing deep inside the overt hard-crust of Islam that covers Iranian public life.

About Saadi Vambery, the Hungarian traveller, records that

"he even assumed the religion of the worshippers of Vishnu in order to extend and increase his knowledge of all things.....".[1]

That clearly implies that even in Saadi 's times at least some Iranians did worship Vedic deities such as Shiva and Vishnu.

Shiva Worship in Iran

Iranians though claiming to be Muslims, maintain a separate identity from Arab Muslims who are Sunnis. What is the origin of the terms Sunni and Shia ?

Iranians as Muslims have been made to forget that their Shiaism is in fact ancient Vedic Shaivism. The usual explanation that their distinct identity as Shias arises from their differneces over the Caliphate is only an eyewash.

Vambery, the Hungarian has summarized the traditional version on pages 68 and 69 of his travel-account. He records "After the death of Mahomad, he having designated no one as his successor, the faithful divided into two camps. The larger portion thought Abubakar, the oldest companion and follower of the prophet, most worthy of the succession, whilst the minority endeavoured to place Ali (Mahomad 's son-in-Law) upon the throne, but Ali 's party was vanquished. After Abubakr came Osman and the latter was succeeded by Omar. Ali 's partisans, however, did not despair of their cause, they made several attempts to seat him on the throne and after the death of Omar, Ali actually became Caliph. His reign was of short duration, his enemies at whose head the prophet 's widow herself stood, had him assassinated....He had nine wives, but of these mention is made only of Fatima, the prophet 's most beloved daughter, who bore Ali two sons Hassan and Husein. The right of succession was claimed by Husein. The latter, upon one occasion was going from Mecca to the town of Kuffa, at the invitation of the inhabitants who were his partisans.....On the banks of the Tigris, in the middle of the desert, they were suddenly attacked

(1) P. 128, Arminicus Vambery - His life and Adventures, Written by himself, London, T.Fisher Unwin, 26, Paternoster square, 1884.

by hostile bands sent against them by Yezid, and everyone of them cruelly massacred. This catastrophe is commemorated in Persia by numberless mournful and plaintive songs and theatrical exhibitions called Tazias......"

That is the traditional story given out by the Muslims. But is that true ? No one seems to have closely cross-examined that version. Like so many other historical concepts, this too is based on traditional hearsay. In analyzing this particular version we invite the reader 's attention to a very vital method of historical investigation which historians hitherto seem to have generally neglected.

The first point to be noted in analyzing the above story is that the succession to Mahomad as the head of the Islamic faith was an all-Arab affair. It was Abubakr, a follower of Mohamad versus Ali the Son-in-law. How should Iranians as a nation be interested in taking sides one way or the other ? And if it was after all a matter of personal preference, Iranians should have been divided almost 50-50 in opting for Abubakr or Ali as the Caliph. Only if Ali or his son Husein had been Iranians, would Iranians side with them as leaders of the Muslim faith rather than with Abubakr.

So the real reason for Iranian dissent was different. Islam is not at all a religion. It is a deceptive political slogan raised to promote an Arabic conquest. Iran was ruthlessly mowed down and enslaved by Arab invaders. Iran chafed under that insult and injury. It needed a pretext to spite the Arabs. Therefore, when a dispute arose over the succession, because Abubakr was strongly supported by the Arabs, the Iranians hailed Ali. Had the Arabs opted for Ali Iranians would have backed up Abubakr.

The main point was that the Iranians wanted some issue to rise and revolt against Arab domination, ravage and enslavement of their land and people. This they did by organizing rallies crying for revenge for Husein 's murder.

That Muharram is an occasion on which Iranians curse the Arab for looting, desecrating their temples, burning and enslaving

Iran, is illustrarted by Vambery's description of the ceremony he witnessed during his journey through Iran. He observed "just before the Tazia commenced, a ragged....rather rickety- looking dervish stepped upon the platform crying 'Ya Muminin' (Oh! you true believers) and in an instant the utmost stillness prevailed. He now engaged in a long prayer, lauding the perfections and brave deeds of the Shi-ite great and then enunciating in exaggerated language the sins and the wickedness of the Sunnites, and in mentioning the names of some distinguished Sunnite men, he exclaimed with a fury bordering on madness 'Bretheren, ought we not to curse them, ought we not to call down damnation upon their heads? I tell you, a curse upon the three dogs, the three usurpers Abubakr, Omar and Osman'. There he paused, waiting for the effect of his words on the assembled multitude. The whole multitude expressed their approval of his curses and anathemas by loud cries of 'Bishbad, bishbad.' (More even than that,more even than that!) The dervish went on cursing Ayesha, the prophet's wife, Moavie, Yazed and all the distinguished foes to Shi-itism pausing at the name of each, and the audience roared out every time, "Bishbad".[2]

Trident Pinnacle

That the so-called Shias of Iran were not Shiates but Shaivites is proved by the fact that even today some so-called mosques in Iran (which are captured Vedic temples) retain the ancient trident pinnacle. A series of articles contributed (Sept./Oct. 1980) by Vijay Parulekar to the Marathi Weekly, MANOOS of Pune, on his impressions of Iran, carried the photo of a so-called mosque with a trident atop.

Somnath Shivling

The writer claimed that he also saw the sacred Shivling which Mahmud Ghaznavi had uprooted from the famous Somnath temple in India, in Ahmedabad village near the city of Isfahan. The same is corroborated by the following quotation "It is still said that

(2) Pp. 69-70, of Vambery's travelogue, ibid.

Mahomad Seljung placed a stone brought by Mahmood Ghaznavi from a Hindu temple in Sumarat (i.e.Somnath) in India, in a prominent position under the threshold of Kazi Nezamul-Mulk School. And today there is still an unusual carved stone, three metres long on the threshold of Emamzadeh Ahmmad one of Isfahan's ancient buildings. On it are etched the following words in Arabic script 'Amen, O God of the two worlds' and a date which shows that the stone dates from 1167-8 A.D. The stone still bears the marks of a chain, where it was especially bound by the Iranians to show their contempt for the Hindu idol it used to be."[3]

Why Muharram?

Why do Iranians call their protest funeral-rally Muharram? And in that rally why do they carry seven-storied or ten-storied replicas of huge mansions decorated with tinsel? Why are those towering structures called Tazias and Tabuts? Nobody seems to have inquired.

The Tazias alias Tabuts are said to represent the bodies or biers of Husein and his followers. But that is not convincing. The Muslim biers are never seven-to-ten storied embellished structures capped with domes. Moreover, there is no effigy of Husein or his slain follwers placed inside those structures.

The real explanation is that the Tabuts alias Tazias represent towering, rich Shiv temples of Iran which the Iranians were made to demolish by neo-Muslim Arab invaders. The Iranians were forced also, as insult added to injury, to carry the debris of their own demolished masonry temples and dump it outside their towns and villages. Naturally, the Iranians yelled, wailed, cried, shrieked, fretted and fumed over that Arab tyranny, cruel despotism and vandalism. Muharram is a commemorative, rueful protest-demonstration of that mass national shame and tyranny inflicted on Iran by the Arabs. This explanation alone satisfies all the facts and terminology associated with that commemoration.

(3) Historical Monuments of Isfahan, by Honarfar, Director of History, Teheran University, 7th edition.

The term 'Shia' has nothing to do with the Abubakr Vs. Ali succession dispute. It is only a malpronunciation of the term Shaiva. The Arabs made the Iranians demolish all their temples enshrining Vedic deities. Among them Shiva temples were numerous and prominent.

That the structures which Iranians carry in the procession are not biers but replicas of towering and resplendent Shiva temples is apparent from their size, shape and structure. They are multi-storied edifices with arched windows, doorways and domes decorated with variegated silver and gold tinsel. Is there any sign of the corpses of Husein and his companions in them?

They are known as Tazias because Lord Shiva is known as Tejaji i.e. the lustrous one, just as the Taj Mahal in India, which has now been proved to be an ancient Shiva temple, is a corruption of the term Tejo Mahalaya.

They are also known as Tabuts because in Islamic parlance 'butt' signifies a divine idol. Consequently Tabut is a structure sheltering the divine idol of a Vedic deity.

Now let us consider the term Muharram. That too has no connection whatsoever with the Abubakr Vs. Ali or Husein dispute. The Encyclopaedia Islamia (Page 698, Vol III) explains Muharram as the "first month of the Mahomedan year. The name is originally not a proper name but an adjective."

It may be noted that it being the first month of the Islamic year, it has nothing to do with Iran or Husein as such. Muhu-rama is a Sanskrit word (मुहुः रम) signifying a little tarrying in divine contemplation for benedictions at the commencement of the year. Why should the name of the month apply to a festival especially when in Islam festivals fall in different months every year because of their crude method of citing each festival 11 days earlier in every succeeding year?

We now quote another authority. The Islamic dictionary explains Muharram as "literally that which is forbidden. Anything sacred, the first month of the Mahomedan year, the first 10 days of the month observed in commemoration of the martyrdom of al-Husein....these days of lamentation are only observed by the Shia Muslims but the 10th day of Muharram is cherished by the Sunnis. The ceremonies of the Muharram differ much in different countries."[4]

The dictionary-meaning signifying that Muharram meant something sacred which is forbidden, proves that Muharram commemorates the sorrowful forbidding of Vedic Shiv worship. The mode of celebration differs from country to country, as mentioned in the Islamic dictionary, because the trauma of Arab tyranny in Iran making Iranians demolish their Shiv temples and dump the debris elsewhere was severer.

This analysis should convince readers that all so-called Muslims retain ancient Vedic practices and traditions but that they are being totally misled by separatist elements who twist history and misrepresent facts to mislead their followers.

This should induce researchers in Iran to investigate the origin of all ancient, massive, historic structures in their country. Though currently those edifices are being palmed off as mosques and tombs, proper scrutiny would reveal that they are captured temples, from which Vedic idols have been unceremoniously uprooted. The Muharram is, therefore, a kind of a poignant funeral-commemoration of the massacre of Vedic culture in countries dominated by Islam.

Ganga Worship

According to Indian tradition the highest public reverence and devotion attaches to the Ganga river because she was brought down from the high heavens by prince Bhagirath after great penance. In order that the mighty stream of the river, roaring down from the firmament, may not pierce the earth right through, Lord Shiva standing atop Mount Kailas agreed to let the Ganga stream

(4) P.407, A Dictionary of Islam, by Thomas Patrick Hughes, Oriental Publishers, 1488, Pataudi House, Delhi.

pour-down over His head of matted hair serving as a kind of a 'stepdown transformer' so that the river could course its way through the Himalayan terrain.

The same legend, with changed names, may be found to be common in pre-Islamic Iran. A reference to it may be found in a footnote in Herodotus's History. The footnote records "The Persian cult of Aphrodite....the native goddess may have started personification of a single river (or conceivably of the Milky way). In the Avesta she is entitled Ardvi, Shura, Ahalhita (i.e. high, powerful, undefiled) and is the heavenly spring....her source being on the top of a mythical mountain in the region of the stars. She came down to the earth at the command of Ahura Mazda."[5]

Music

Iran like all other countries of the world practised Vedic music during its pre-Islamic days. This may be concluded from the following passage "Bahram V (412 to 438 A.D.) did not stop there but also imported musicians from India. Therefore it is not surprising to find certain similarities between Indian and Persian Music....."[6]

The reader is likely to carry the wrong impression that Iran for the first time had a taste of Indian music in the 5th century. What is implied is that from time immemorial Iran was heir to Vedic, Sanskrit music. Due to historical upheavals, whenever links with India became tenuous, musicians were summoned from India to revive the tradition of Vedic music. In the course of that routine, the Iranian ruler Bahram V had to call for some Indian musicians for the umpteenth time in the 5th century A.D. Even the name Bahram is a truncated form of the Sanskrit name Pattabhiram.

The Four Classes of Society

A four-fold social classification which one comes across in all

(5) P.131, HERODOTUS, Rawlinson's translation revised and annotated by A.W.Lawrence, the Nonesuch Press, Great James Street, Bloomsbury.

(6) P.52, Fodor's Guide to Iran, edited by Richard Moor, published by Hodder and Stoughton, London, 1979.

regions of the ancient world is yet one more telling proof of the worldwide prevalence of Vedic culture in countries now under Islam.

That such a four-fold system has survived in Iraq and Iran despite 1300 years of Islamic terror, torture and oppression is a near miracle. Even the existence of that ancient system got highlighted because of the exigencies of the present Iraq-Iran war. The relevant report which appeared in the Ahmedabad edition of the daily Times of India of December 9,1982 is quoted hereunder:-

Yazidis in Iran Face Extermination

"An ancient people who have escaped countless attempts at their extermination for 14 centuries are now threatened by the Iran-Iraq conflict. The Yazidis, a confederation of tribes, have a religion based on Zoroastrianism in the heart of the Muslim Middle East. They consider the war to be caused by 'Islamic fanaticism', from which they themselves have suffered in the past.

"The Yazidis are referred to as 'Satan-worshippers' in the region, but Muaawiah says this is 'just a label'. 'We do not worship satan', he explained. 'We just admire him for being the first to oppose arbitrary authority and the whimsical decisions of the Almighty'. He said that several major Kurdish, Turkish and Arab tribes are followers of the same. The Yazidis do much that is abhorrent to Muslims, they drink wine, eat pork, take only one wife and base their society on an ancient caste system with four basic groups princes, priests, warriors and workers. They believe in the transmigration of souls and revere fire." This proves that the ageold, four-fold Vedic social system still continues to survive in unknown pockets of the world.

Falsified History

Eversince Iran was converted to Islam, falling in line with Islamic practice elsewhere, Iran too falsified its history. This is a great snare of Islamic history.

Sir W. Drummond is one of the few writers who have drawn the world's attention to such Islamic perfidy. Referring to pre-Islamic

traces in West Asia Drummond observes "The tomb of prophet Jonah (of the Jews) invidiously concealed from their view by a Mahomedan mosque (Tavernier L.2, Neibuhr, Vol. 2, Howel's Travels etc.)."

About Mosul Drummond notes "The Persians pretend that Mosul was founded by Tehmureth or Tahamartha." This is the Sanskrit term 'Trimurti' i.e. Trinity. Mosul is a modern corruption of Sanskrit Mahashivalaya meaning 'The great Abode of Lord Shiva.'

On page 297 of his book Drummond remarks "The Iranian historians represent their monarchy as the most ancient and the most powerful in the world. It is enough to say at the present of their claims to antiquity that they rival those of the Hindus themselves. These historians assign to their first kings the sovereignty of the whole of Asia, excepting India. In the geographical descriptions, which the Persians themselves have given of their country, they have generally much exaggerated its extent."[7]

Drummond points out the folly of European writers blindly believing and repeating the statements of Arab writers. Drummond observes "The Arabian writers who have been generally followed by the Europeans and even by modern Persians, pretend that Samarkand, Kandahar and many other towns were founded by Alexander the Great and that the names of these towns are corruptions from Eskandar.....If we give credit to the Eastern historians, Eskandar must have founded more cities than whole dynasties had done before him....Alexander may have given his name to various cities already flourishing, but it is probable that the Greeks have denominated many a place, Alexandria which might never have been known to the inhabitants by the appellation."[8]

From all accounts like the one above the entire Alexander episode

(7) P.[illegible], Vol.1, Origins or Remarks on the Origin of Several Empires, States and Cities, by the Rt.Hon'ble Sir W. Drummond, printed by A.J.Valpy, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, sold by Baldwin and Co,1826.
(8) P. [illegible], Ibid.

seems to be a big fraud. Historians would do well to ascertain whether there did at all exist a Macedonian king of that name and whether all the glories associated with him during his brief career are real happenings or mere fiction.

Names of kings given to townships must generally be taken to imply not authorship but impositions during overlordship. The name Alexandria need not be ascribed to the Macedonian Alexander but to the Sanskrit term Alexyendra (अलक्ष्येन्द्र i.e. the Invisible Divinity).

Horse Sacrifice

Herodotus and Xenophon have mentioned Persians performing the horse sacrifice known in Vedic terminology as Aswamedh.

Samarkand was Marcandeya

Drummond notes on page 322 of his book "Arrian calls Marcanda the royal palace of Sagdiana. This Marcanda was probably the same city which the Persians now call Samarkand."

This is an important clue. It also indicates how Sanskrit terms have been mutilated. So what we know to be the city of Samarkand appears to be originally Markandeya named after a Vedic sage of the name since Russia is, in fact, the land of Vedic rishis. Sogdiana could be the corruption of the Sanskrit name Shuddhodana. His palace, is currently mistaken to be Tamerlain's mausoleum.

About how Muslim Persia has subtly twisted and deviated from accounts written by their non-Muslim ancestors Drummond remarks "The orthography of the modern Persians greatly varies from that employed by their ancestors who wrote in Zend or in Pehlvi. The use of the Arabic alphabet necessarily helped to produce this change; and has even contributed to alter the pronunciation of words."[9]

World Vedic Empire

Drummond virtually confirms our thesis of an ancient Vedic

(9) P.321, Ibid.

world empire in observing "In the early ages of the world, the inhabitants of Iran and India were governed by the same laws, and were united as one people under the same monarchy. The Zend, the ancient language of the Iranians, was apparently a dialect of Sanskrit. According indeed to the ancient tradition by the Hindus, both the Persians and the Chinese were the subjects of India. Thus it is distinctly stated in the Institutes of Manu, that many of the families of the military class, abandoned the ordinances of the Veda, and among these are mentioned the Pahlavas and Chinas."[10]

Yet, adds Drummond "Persian vanity scarcely acknowledges, that Iran was ever submitted to a foreign yoke."[11]

We get another clue to the ancient Vedic world empire in Drummond's remark "It appears from various testimonies, that the ancient Indians, Persians, Tartars and Chinese, had at one period a common system of law, religion and science. The inhabitants of Turan (i.e. Tartary and China) like those of Iran, adored the sun; and like them sacrificed horses, and offered chariots to the God of light. The Chinese were likewise worshippers of the Sun and of the celestial bodies."[12]

Surya-Shardul Emblem of India

Drummond informs us "*A lion surmounted by the Solar orb, was the device of the ancient monarchs of India.*"

In Sanskrit terminology the term 'Shardul' denotes the wild cat species i.e., the lion, the tiger and the panther. It was the custom amongst ancient Kshatriyas to depict the Sun as the progenitor of the solar dynasty of rulers and the lion (or tiger) as a symbol of uncompromising valour. Therefore, whether it was the sun and tiger or the Sun and Lion, it was a Vedic emblem. Such an emblem inlaid on the so-called Tamerlain mausoleum in Samarcand proves that edifice to be the palace of ancient Sanskrit-

(10) P.361, Ibid.
(11) P. 380, Ibid.
(12) P. 160, Vol. II, Ibid.

speaking rulers of Russia. The cenotaph erected inside it, if any, in the name of Tamerlain is a fake. Raising such fake cenotaphs in stately captured edifices, is a subtle Muslim device to lay permanent claim to somebody else's property without having to employ even a watchman.

Shaivism

Shiva is an important Vedic deity. It is wrong to believe that Shaivism was a separate cult. Vedic tradition has innumerable deities. Each one of those represents the whole of divinity. Therefore, under Vedic tradition one may worship one or more deities according to one's choice or even not worship any. Consequently, wherever and whenever one comes across a reference to the worship of any deity such as Rama, Krishna, Shiva or any goddess that must immediately be taken to be evidence of the prevalence of Vedic culture.

Drummond observes "Tsabaism was the religion of ancient Arabians......Tsabaism...had existeed in Arabia for many ages before the time of Mohomet....Rab Moses Maimonides....has shown that Tsabaism was the universal religion of mankind....their doctrines were probably extended over all the civilized nations of the earth..... stones rudely cut in the forms of globes, columns, cones and pyramids were ..... objects of adoration among the pagans of remote antiquity...."[13]

In Vedic worship such stones do represent deities such as Shiva, Vishnu, Ganesh, Hanuman and many others. The round cylindrical, smooth, shining-surface stones found in rivers and designated as 'Baan' represent Lord Shiv while other stores called Shaaligram signify Lord Vishnu.

Iran a Part of the Hindu Empire

Lt.Gen Charles Vallancy quotes Sir William Jones as saying "It has been proved by clear evidence, and plain reasoning, that

(13) Pp 407 to 435, Vol. II, Ibid.

a powerful monarchy was established in Iran, long before the Assyrian or Pishdadi government; that it was in truth a Hindu monarchy....that it subsisted many centuries and that its history has been ingrafted on that of the Hindoos, who founded the monarchies of Ayodhya and Indraprastha.....[14]

Babylonia - Assyria

Pococke observes "that a system of Hinduism pervaded the whole Babylonian and Assyrian empires. Scripture furnishes abundant proofs, in the mention of the various types of the Sun-god, Bal-nath whose pillar adorned every mound and every grove, and to whose other representative, the brazen calf, the 15th of each month was especially sacred."[15]

"The term Syria", says Pococke, "derives from the Indian tribes that under the appellation of 'Surya', or the Sun, gave its enduring name to the vast province of Suria now Syria. It is in Palestine that this martial race will be found settled in the greatest force."[16]

Kishon River

Palestine has a river, Kishon deriving its name from Lord Krishna. In modern Indian pronunciation too the name Krishna is pronounced as Kishon over large tracts.

Mount Sameru

And not far from the Kishon river is the sacred Hill of Samaria deriving its name from Sumeru of Vedic lore.

The current Islamic faith of Iran is an imposition by Arab invaders and hence a mark of the nations's total serfdom.

Iran's total cultural background which was Vedic, Sanskrit has been flooded and submerged by Islam pumped in by Arab invaders

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(14) P.468, Collectania De Rebus Hibernicus, by Lt. Gen. Charles Vallancey, printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 10 Back Land Dublin, 1804.
(15) P.178, India in Greece, by E. Pococke.
(16) P.182, Ibid.

in the very manner in which Arabs themselves were initially forced to abandon their Vedic faith or to shroud it under an Islamic garb.

Iran is the current truncated pronunciation of the Sanskrit term Iranam signifying a salty or barren region.

Its other name Persia derives from the Sanskrit word Parashu signifying a battle axe which Parashuram used to carry. The words Persian, Pharsi and Parsi alias Parasikas are all derivatives of the term parashu.

Kalidasa's magnum opus the Raghuvamsh recalls the punitive campaign that Raghu (an ancestor of Rama) had carried out against the erring natives of that region.

An Ancient Corpse Reveals Evidence

Indian dailies of January 20, 1994 reported the discovery of "The upper part of the body of a man who lived 2000 years ago has been unearthed intact at a salt quarry in the Zanjan province of northwest Iran... in Chelhrabad village, 35 kms. west of Zanjan city, preserved by thick layers of salt. A gold earring still adorned the left ear..."

Piercing the ears of children on the 12th day after birth so that they may wear rings and other pendants throughout life is a Vedic tradition. So the discovery of the gold-ring in a ear of the Iranian corpse is a singular proof of the Vedic faith of ancient Iranians.

The city name Zanjan too is of pre-Islamic origin as is apparent from the name Zunjunu, a prominent city in the Rajasthan province of India.

The ancient *Chaharshanbe-suri* is a pre-Islamic observance celebrated with crackers by Iranians. The festival dates back to Iran's Vedic (Zoroastrian) past when fire was supposed to represent divine effulgence and have a spiritual purificatory effect.

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THE VEDIC PAST OF ÆGYPT

A number of very renowned European authors attribute the Ægyptian civilization to Indian, Vedic origin.

One such author is Thomas Maurice. His book containing considerable information on ancient Ægypt bears the lengthy title **The History of Hindostan, its Arts and its Sciences** as connected with the History of the other Great Empires (Republished by Navrang, New Delhi - 110012, India, in 1974).

Maurice writes "Nimrod, who according to Mr. Wilford, is, in fact, celebrated in Sanskrit history under the corresponding name of Nirmaryada,[1] an ancient sovereign of Misra Sthan,[2] or Egypt, execrable for every species of tyranny and crimes; that despot who hunted down men and beasts, and who erected a fabric intended to brave the skies and render him superior even to the elements. The Narasing breathing flames naturally brings to our recollection the oriental accounts of the calamity at Babel...The deity is affirmed to have descended at Babel. 'And the Lord said, Go to, let us go down'. Genesis xi.7"[3]

(1) The name Nirmaryada in Sanskrit, implies an unscrupulous person of unrestrained behaviour.
(2) Misrasthan is a Sanskrit name implying a land of mixed races.
(3) P.26 of Thomas Maurice's book. The allusion is to the legend of the Narasimha incarnation in which Lord Vishnu appeared as half lion and half-man to kill the tyrannical Hiranyakashyap who according to Maurice was administrator of the territories of Egypt. Even the Bible refers to the descent of the half-lion-half-man, asserts Maurice.

"There can be little doubt but that on the division and dispersion of mankind which immediately took place, the colony which migrated to Egypt, with the history of the awful event, bore also the Indian mythological designation, and that the wonderful Sphinx of that country, compounded partly of a lion and partly of a human being, owed its original formation to this Avatar.....I say it with the more confidence, because on their hieroglyphic sphere and in their early annals, we have already traced the three prior avatars, the fish-god represented like the Matsya; the Canis Anubis, or the boar's head; and the Tetsudo of Hermes...Col. Pearse actually discovered, portrayed on the Jaggernaut pagoda, the Sphinx of Ægypt having the female breasts, with the head and talons of a lion....Plutarch, de Iside et Osiride confesses, that to the Egyptians themselves the Sphinx was an inexplicable mystery, but we have now found its origin in India....The character of Prahlad very much resembles that of Abraham." (Pp. 26 to 30 of Maurice's book).

Bahubali Alias Armstrong

The above information given by Maurice is very valuable. But we would like to suggest slight additions and amendments. It may be pointed out at the outset that the term Babylonia itself is not a flawless pronunciation. The original Sanskrit name of that region is Bahubalaneeya i.e. the realm of king Bahubali, a well-known king in Vedic legends.

A very strong and firm indication of the fact that the original name is Bahubali and that his name was well known in the West is the fact that the European name Armstrong is an exact translation of the Sanskrit term (बाहुबलि) Bahubali

The observation by Maurice that even the Jagannath temple in Puri has an image of the Sphinx proves that the Sphinx in Ægypt is a Vedic deity. Naturally, therefore eversince Ægypt was forced to become a Muslim country Ægyptians got cut off from Vedic culture and lost track of the Vedic significance of the Sphinx.

Maurice's observation that Babylonia is the location of the Narasimha incarnation ... of the Vedic legends, and that even

the Bible alludes to it is very revealing and important. This should underline the need for a meticulous study of the Bible. Perhaps all Biblical stories are distortions of earlier Vedic legends.

That Abraham of the Bible may be Prahlad of the Hindu Vedic legends is also a very valuable observation.

The only variation needed in Maurice's conclusion is that the Sphinx statue is that of the lion-hearted Rama and not of the Narasimha incarnation because in the former (as depicted in Ægypt) it is a human face over a lion's body whereas in the Narasimha legend it is a lion's face over a human body. In support of our conclusion that the Sphinx in Ægypt, is the lion-hearted Rama we have pointed out elsewhere that Rama was renowned in the West (and of course in the East as well) as Lion-hearted and also that the term Ægypt itself is the Sanskrit term, Ajapati, signifying a descendant of Aja (who was Rama's grandfather). The main point however is that both those figures of part man and part lion are of Vedic origin. The Sphinx is the lion-hearted Rama portrayed in a towering figure as the guardian deity of Ægypt, the country named after Him. Since the heart is in the chest region the figure is that of a lion upto the neck. From the neck upward it is a divine face. Since Ægypt bears the name of Rama, all its monarchs too were Ramesis I, Ramesis II etc. similar to the tradition elsewhere in the world such as Hunza in Pakistan and Siam.

The Red Sea abounds with shells of extraordinary size and beauty. The African continent looking like one of those shells was known as Shankh (i.e.conch) dweep. An ancient city in Ægypt named in Sanskrit as Rupawati used to be malpronounced by the Greeks as Rapta.

A considerable portion of Africa was called Sharmasthan alias Sharm or Shem. The tower of Babel was the Padma Mandir alias Lotus Temple on the banks of the river Kumudwati which can be no other than the Euphrates (Pp.44-46 of Maurice's book).

On page 322 of his book Maurice states that Krishna's combat with the dreadful serpent Kaliya Naga is mentioned on page 133

of the Apocryphal Gospel of the edition mentioned in his book as "a most remarkable adventure of the infant saviour with a serpent who had poisoned one of his companions, for he not only compels the serpent to suck back the venom out of the wound, but causes the animal, after repeating upon him the original malediction, to burst asunder....The Indian legend, the Koran, which may be called the Arab legend, and the Apocryphal Gospels have thus an intimate connection".

It is apparent from the extract quoted above that Vedic legends being the ancientmost, the Christian bible and the Moslem Koran have inherited them in the distorted form in which they found them at their distance of time from the relevant happenings.

Count Biornstierna observes "Several names of Hindu mythology are recognized in Ægypt. Thus Ammon the Supreme God of Ægyptians (Haya-Gopatians) corresponds to Aum (ॐ) of the Hindus, and the Brahmanical Shiva is found in the temple to which Alexander the Great made his pilgrimage from Ægypt and which yet bears his name."[4]

The author quoted above is right in observing that Ægyptian names were Vedic. We may point out as an illustration that corresponding to the Ægyptian name 'Cleopatra' we have in India names like Kanhopatra (a woman saint of mediaeval Maharashtra) and Mahapatra (a name common in Orissa). 'Patra' has several connotations. It means, a pot, a document or a letter.

Biornstierna's use (as that of most Western writers) of the term Brahmanism as indicative of Vedic-Hindu culture, is not right. Brahmanism was only a 1/4th part of Hinduism. All the four professional groups together formed the Hindu-Vedic society.

Count Biornstierna has a lot of other information to give us on the Vedic culture in ancient Ægypt, namely that "it is testified to by Herodotus, Plato, Salon, Pythagoras and Philostratus that the religion of Egypt proceeded from India.....

(4) Pp. 43-46, The Theogony of the Hindus, by Count Biornstierna.

"It is testified by Neibuhr, Valentia, Champollion and Weddington that the temples of upper Ægypt are of greater antiquity than those of lower Ægypt....that consequently the religion of Ægypt according to the testimony of those monuments....came from India.....

"The chronicles found in the temples of Abydos and Sais and which have been transmitted to us by Josephus, Julius Africanus, and Eusebius all testify that the religious system of the Ægyptians proceeded from India.

"We have Hindu chronologies (besides those of the Purans concerning the Yug) which go still further back in time than the Tables of the Ægyptian kings according to Manetho."

Asp (alias Abu) signifies 'water' in Sanskrit, and Sind is Sindhu river. Consequently Abusind alias Abyssinia signifies a colony of people who had come from the banks of the Indus.

From the above details Count Biornstierna concludes "It appears from the above-mentioned grounds that the Hindus have a greater claim to the primogeniture of religion and consequently to the primogeniture of civilization than the people of ancient Ægypt."[5]

Vedic Symbols in Ægypt

"On comparing the religious systems of the Ægyptians and the Hindus we are struck by their resemblance to each other. Both proceed from monotheistic principles and degenerate into polytheistic heathenism......The principle of trinity with that of the unity, the pre-existence of the soul, its transmigration, the division of castes into priests, warriors, traders and agriculturists are the cardinal points of both the systems. Even the symbols are the same on the shores of the Ganges and the Nile. Thus we find the Lingam of the Shiva temples of India in the Phallus of Ammon temple of Ægypt.... a symbol also met with on the head-dress of Ægyptian gods. We find the lotus flower as the symbol of the Sun both in India and Ægypt and we find symbols of the immortality of

(5) Pp. 43-46, Ibid.

the soul in both countries. The power of rendering barren women fruitful ascribed to the temple of Shiva in India was also ascribed to the temple of Ammon in Ægypt....Bedouin women may still be seen wandering around the temple of Ammon for the purpose of obtaining the blessing."[6]

Phallus Misinterpreted

The term Phallus has been interpreted by European scholars to mean the penis i.e. the male gential organ. When Europe went Christian it imparted a further obscene slant to the term to discredit the pre-Christian Vedic culture of the world and spread the myth that pre-Christian Europeans were barbarians who worshipped the penis. Both Christians and Muslims are guilty of such deliberate conspiratorial defamation.

The word 'Phal' in Sanskrit signifies fruit. Phaleish signifies the 'ish' i.e. the Lord as the giver of the sought after fruit. Lord Shiva is credited with remitting every person his due, whether good or bad. Consequently the term Phalesh signifies the Father God, Lord Shiva, and not the male genital organ. Misrepresentation of it as an obscene symbol was the result of Greek ignorance and Christian perfidy.

Eusebius, a Greek writer has recorded that "the Ethiopians emigrating from the river Indus settled in the vicinity of Ægypt."[7]

Maxmueller has observed that the mythology of Ægyptians (and also that of the Greeks and Assyrians) is wholly founded on Hindu mythology.

Col. Olcott, a former president of the Theosophical Society notes that "India sent a colony of emigrants who carried their arts and high civilization into what is now known to us as Ægypt.....Brugsch Bey, Ægyptologer and antiquarian says.... that they migrated from India long before historic memory.....to find a fatherland on the banks of the Nile. The Ægyptians came, according to their own

(6) Pp. 40-41, Ibid.
(7) P. 20, Bharat (India) As Seen And Known by Foreigners.

records, from a mysterious land....on the shore of the Indian ocean, the sacred Punt; the original home of their gods....that Punt can be no other than India."[8]

Rama was spelled as Rham in the West. Later 'R' was dropped. Consequently African school text-books asserting that Africans are Cushites (i.e. subjects of Kusha, the son of Rama) mention Ham (instead of Rham) as the father of Cusha. The name Rama is pronounced in South India as Raman. Europeans spell it as Roman, and Muslims as Rehman.

The twin brother of Cusha was Lava. The region named after him was known in Sanskrit as Laviya. Currently it is being pronounced as Libya.

Kaurav City

Rama belonged to the Treta Yug. In the next i.e. the Dwapar Yuga the universal Vedic administration was looked after by the Kauravas. Their memory is hallowed in the city of Cairo which the Muslims pronounce as Kahira.

The Ishwar University

The Al Azar University of Cairo is basically Al Ishwar University. That Sanskrit term Ishwar is being pronounced in Western countries as 'izar' alias 'zar'

As known from hieroglyphs Ægypt was described as Kamit country. In Sanskrit 'Ka' alias 'Ku' stands for black or dark and 'mrit' signifies 'earth'. The word Kamit is obviously a corruption of the Sanskrit term Kamrit. Ægyptians called India as the land of Punt alias Pankth and regarded it as their divine land peopled by Punts alias Pundits i.e. sages, seers and gods.

An ancient chronicle of Pharoah Sankarrah (i.e. Shankar alias Shiva) and Queen Haphseput (also spelled as Hatsheput), recorded in stone, mentions a special voyage sent to the Land of Punt. The

(8) P.17 The Theosophist, March, 1881.

voyage was to the 'Ophir' coast. That word Ophir is a malpronunciation of the word Souvir. In the Mahabharat times the land watered by the Indus was known as Sindhu-Sauvir. The voyage took $2\frac{1}{2}$ years to return but by that time the Pharoah Sankar-rah (i.e. Shankar raja) had died (about 1800 B.C.)

The account of that voyage recorded by the queen mentions that the flotilla consisting of several ships stayed in the Land of Gods for a few days to call on king Puruhu (i.e. Purush) and returned with a rich cargo consisting of bullion, peacocks, dyes and leopard skins.

Vedic Theogony

The Ægyptian goddess Isis is Vedic Ushas. Similarly the Ægyptian God Ptah is the Sanskrit word Pita meaning God as the father of the universe. The Ægyptian Seb is Shiva. The Ægyptian God 'Har' is one of the Sanskrit names of Lord Shiva. His consort 'Hathor' alias 'Seket' is 'Shakti'. The Ægyptian God 'Bes' is Bishnu alias Vishnu of the Vedic tradition. The Ægyptian God Aton is the Sanskrit word Atman. According to the Ægyptologist, Dr. Budge, the ancient Ægyptians believed in the existence of one great god, self-produced, self-existent, Almighty, eternal, who created the cosmos. He was called Nethr i.e. God without a name. But the term 'Nethr' in Sanskrit signifying the 'eye' could apply to god as the 'seer' of everything. Additionally the term Nethra could also be a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit attribute of divinity 'Neti....Neti' i.e 'not this' 'not this'.

The Earth Supported by Shesh

The Ægyptians conceived of the earth both as a cow and as a huge sphere balanced on the hood of a giant cobra, known as 'Shesh' as is the Indian belief.

This concept viz. of the earth being held aloft by the Shesh is a cosmic fantasy.

In Sanskrit the 'Shesh' (meaning a 'cobra') also signifies the 'remainder' or 'balance' that remains after one sum is deducted from another. We know that the various heavenly bodies are held

aloft in orbit by others' attraction. Therefore, cosmos minus the Earth is equal to Shesh i.e. the remainder. That is to say the earth is sustained in orbit by the Shesh (i.e. the residual forces). Consequently, the Vedic artist caricatured that mathematical and scientific truth by showing the earth as being supported by the hoods of a giant cobra (i.e. Shesh).

Ægyptian Worship-Ritual was Vedic

The Ægyptians used in their worship the Chattra and Chamar as is used in India to do honour to divinity and royalty. The Chhatra is the canopy. The Chamar is a long handle of precious metal in which is fixed a clump of long, soft fibres to gently fan the honoured personality. Incense was also burned in a tall stand. God Horus alias Suryas the Sun was carried in procession.

River-water was considered sacred in Ægypt as in India.

The Ægyptian monarchs too regarded themselves as representatives of divinity on earth in the Vedic tradition. According to Herodotus the Ægyptian king used to be from the priestly class or the warrior class only. India too had Brahmin and Kshatriya ruling dynasties. Ægyptians also adhered to the Dharma Yuddha tradition of abiding by strict rules even in warfare such as not harming, torturing or killing those who surrendered or those who were defenceless.

The skull measurements of Ægyptian mummies have been found to be akin to those of the people from India, by Heeren, an early Ægyptologist.

The Ægyptians paid homage to elders by bowing and touching the feet of the elders as is done in India.

Day-to-day life in Ægypt was regulated on the basis of the astronomical significance of each day as projected through the almanac. The Ægyptians also studied astrology.

The Ægyptian priests bathed three times a day with cold water. They used glasses of precious metal for holy water and

other sacred offerings.

Ægyptian women were highly respected as per Vedic tradition.

The word Kshatriya of Sanskrit was pronounced by the Ægyptians as Khatti or Kheta. In Hebrew that same word came to be spelled as Hittite.

Mittanis had a king named Tusratha which is the Sanskrit name Dasharath. His sister Nefertite was the wife of the Ægyptian monarch Akhenaton. She and Cleopatra are reputed to be the two most beautiful women of ancient Ægyptian royalty.

A treaty between Hittites and the Mittanis invokes Vedic deities. That is one more proof of Vedic culture having pervaded the ancient world.

Indians have been known since ancient time for their expertise in breeding, treating and training animals. One such was Kikuli who wrote a treatise on horse-training for Mittani princes. The writer's name derives from his family tradition of performing the Vedic Kaukili ritual.

♦♦

This Druid alias Dravid architect designed the Ægyptian Pyramids. The Sandal-paste marks on his body are of Vedic tradition. Unrolled in his hand is the line-drawing of the edifice made according to Sanskrit, Vedic architectural texts. This picture appearing on page 368 of **Ægyptian Myth and Legend**, is also reproduced in Aiyangar's volume titled **Long Missing Links**.

A Pharoah of Memphis (northern Ægypt). Such ancient statues and **portraits** are on display in museums in Cairo and other cities.

This picture appears on page 56 of the Bible Dictionary (appended to the Bible edited by the American Review Committee) and in the volume titled, **Long Missing** *Links*, by *Aiyangar*. (*Theosophical Society, Library*, Adyar, Madras, *India*)

The holy *sandal-paste marks on the body are an ancient Vedic custom* (still observed by *orthodox Hindus in India) indicative of the Vedic culture* of ancient Ægypt and *consequently of all Arabs and Africans*.

Pyramids and the giant Sphinx infront have long been great enigmas. The term Ægypt is the Sanskrit term Ajapati, an epithet of the Vedic incarnation, Rama.

That vital clue solves all riddles of Ægyptology. Since Ægypt is named after Rama, his father Dasharath (spelled as Dasaratta) figures in Ægyptian legends. Rama being the guardian deity of the region, His gigantic representation is raised in front of the Pyramids.

The Sphinx is the Sanskrit term Simhas (i.e. a lion). The extra 'p' is an interpolation as is apparent from several words such as 'psychology, pneumatic, pneumonia' and 'Pfizer' where the letter 'p' remains unpronounced. Likewise if the letter 'p' in 'Sphinx' is silenced the term 'Shinx' can be easily detected to be the Sanskrit term Simhas (i.e. a lion). The Abyssinian ruler was known as the 'Lion of Judah' because all Vedic rulers were called 'lions'.

Pharoah rulers were all known as Ramesis (1,II, III and so on) because the Sanskrit compound Rama+iesus signifies 'Rama- the God'.

The term Pyramid pronounced without the 'extra Py' is the Sanskrit term 'Ramid' i.e. bestowed by Rama.

Though some Pharoahs have been buried in the Pyramids it is a blunder to consider the Pyramids as sepulchral structures. Pyramids are castles in the desert whose tapering sides prevent them being buried under sand because of sand dunes. Subsequent burials in towering captured structures have misled historians about the real origin of such edifices. So-called Muslim mausoleums around the world are parallel illustrations. They are all captured buildings misused for subsequent burials.

This is a statue from ancient Ægypt depicting Bull worship. The Karnatak and Andhra regions of India still have huge images of squatting bulls in numerous temples. Similar images abounding in the north were destroyed by Muslim invaders.

Worshipping cows and bulls as divine aide providing animal-power for farms and nourishing milk for humans is part of Vedic adoration of and gratitude towards divinity.

Prevalence of such worship in Ægypt and other parts of the ancient world prove their adherence to Vedic culture.

Even the Papacy in Rome in its pre-Christian days used to worship Lord Shiva and His Bull. That is why the edict of even a Christian Papacy is still known as a Bull.

The above picture may be found in two earlier publications viz.

(1) Ægyptian Myth and Legend (page 70).

(2) Long Missing Links, by Aiyangar (page 283).

Such statues are on display as historic relics in Ægypt and numerous other countries.

THE VEDIC PAST OF SYRIA AND ASSYRIA

Syria and Assyria are ancient Sanskrit names, Sur and Asur.

The Perpetual Strife

The Vedic Purans record the perpetual strife between two great people namely the Sur and the Asur.

Syria and Assyria should be understood to be mere surviving names. Their ancient boundaries were much more extensive than what the modern atlas shows.

Palmyra

The book titled **Remains of Lost Empires** by P.V.N. Myers (Harper and Bros., publishers, New York, 1875) records on pages 21 to 24 about Palmyra, an ancient city of Syria that ''the fame of Palmyra the 'Queen of the East' was spread throughout the Roman world....We have only a few obscure notices of this once brilliant capital the 'Queen of the East'; and after Timour and his 'Mongol hordes swept over those regions, even the site of the city was lost to the civilized world. The Bedauins were acquainted, of course, with the spot, and are said to have told to the European traders at Damascus and Aleppo strange stories of a ruined city with splendid temples and long streets flanked with columns, faraway in the desert. Naturally enough, those glowing accounts of the wonderful city, led to the organization of expeditions for exploring the ruins. But it was not till the close of the 17th century that any travellers succeeded in reaching the spot. About the middle of the last century Wood and Darwin visited the ruins, and made

some magnificent sketches. These evidences of the architectural grandeur of the remains of the long-lost city astonished Europe.

Again on page 34 the same book adds ''It is a privileged walk to saunter down through the colonnaded avenues of Palmyra.''

On page 38 it is stated that ''the interior of the temple shows sadly the hand of violence. The fanatical iconoclastic Moslem seems to imagine that he is never doing heaven better service than when engaged in breaking to pieces or defacing the beautiful creation of antiquity. The temple has been further marred by having been used as a mosque....mud and plaster hide much of the former beauty of the shrine. The large central apartment is now roofed with a rude covering of branches overlaid with earth and is used for a stable''. All lands overrun by Islam have thus been reduced to deserts dotted with unrecognizable ruins of the ancient Vedic civilization. Temples and palaces bearing Sanskrit inscriptions and icons of Krishna, Shiva and other Gods and Goddesses have either been totally destroyed or are being misused as mosques and tombs.

Assyrian Dress

The **Indian Antiquary** volume of 1878 A.D. mentions on page 181 that ''In reading lately Rawlinson's *Five Great Monarchies of the Ancient World*. I came across a passage describing the dress of the Assyrian foot-archers (Vol. I.p.430) part of which is as follows, ''their only garment is a tunic of scantiest dimensions, beginning at the waist, round which it is fastened by a broad belt or girdle descending more than half-way down the thigh. In its make it sometimes closely resembles the tunic of the first period, but more often it has been the peculiar pendant ornament which has been compared to Scotch philibeg....any resident of India, looking at the illustration given on the page from which the quotation is taken' would at once remark the similarity of the archer's solitary garment to the Indian DHOTI

♦♦

A Vedic planetary deity on an hexagonal seat (with eight poles representing the eight Vedic surface directions) illustrated in an astronomical treatise (in the AEgyptian National Library, Cairo) by the 16th century Persian author Mohamad-al-Tusi, titled - **The Cosmos and its Matematical Study.** The names and facials were cleverly given a Muslim look in all regions overrun by Islam to falsify earlier Vedic history.

Notice the numerous arms holding Vedic emblems such as the Vedas (in the right arm near the chest), an axe, a drum, a cluster of incense sticks, a lotus bud and a mouse.

THE VEDIC PAST OF ARABIA

Like other regions of the ancient world Arabia alias Arbasthan is a corruption of the original Sanskrit term Arvasthan i.e. a land of horses.

Since time immemorial proponents of Vedic culture used to breed good horses in the region which has come to be known therefrom as Arvasthan. Arva is a Sanskrit term signifying a horse.

Smritic People

Arabia has been a prominent region of the Vedic civilization especially because its huge temple-complex of the Kaba in Mecca was the centre of an international Vedic pilgrimage. The people there regarded the ancient Vedic Smritis such as Manu-Smriti as their guide-books deserving of the highest reverence. The name Semetic is a corruption of the term *Smritic i.e. followers of Smriti.*

The Uttarapath i.e. *the Northern Highway was the international highway to the north of India through which the countries in the northern hemisphere drew their spiritual, educational and material sustenance from India. Besides using that road-link the Arab region also maintained a sea-link with India.*

Historians hitherto *have been used to cite occasional mutual visits by traders, scholars and diplomats between any two countries as evidence of close relations. But that is hardly worth talking about. People of any two given communities are bound to call on each other on business or merely for a chat or at times pick up a quarrel and assault or rob one another. On a national scale too*

human beings have been communicating with or invading one another. Historical chronicles take cognizance of those events.

In those ancient times Basra came to be known as the Arab gateway to India because it was through that port that Arab lands received Indian goods and personnel. The commodities supplied by India to Arabia, included silk, perfume, camphor, sandalwood, textiles, swords, iron, ivory, jewels, pearls, cane, teakwood, bamboo, camels, cotton, velvet, musk, ginger, toddy, medicines, shoes from Cambay i.e. Khambayat, and muslin.

India also supplied teakwood and expertise for ship-building in Arabia. From all this India, Arabia and every other country must be regarded as members of a single world-wide Vedic culture. Consequently, Arabic like Hebrew is a local variation of Sanskrit sprouting after the universal use of Sanskrit started dwindling. For instance, the Islamic word khusk (i.e. 'dry') is Sanskrit 'shusk'.

Arabic as a Dialect of Sanskrit

Since teakwood was called 'Sagwan' in India the Arabs called it 'Saj'.

The Sanskrit term 'Vish' for 'poison' was pronounced as 'besh' in Arabia.

Ansari is the term Anusari i.e. 'follower'.

The Muslim term 'Mulla' is the Sanskrit term Mull (मल्ल) as used in terms such as Puranmull for instance.

The Arabic word Sheikh is a corrpution of the Sanskrit word 'Sishya' meaning a disciple. In India that word 'Shishya' has changed to 'Sikh' in the Punjab area. Likewise in fareway Arabia and Iran the Sanskrit word Shishya came to be pronounced as Sheikh. That indicates that the Gurukul system of Sanskrit education was in vogue also in countries which are currently considered Muslim.

The Muslim expression 'Insha Alla' is the Sanskrit exclamation 'Ichha Alla' meaning God willing'.

Mout is the Sanskrit term 'Mrityu' i.e. death.

Paigambar is the Sanskrit compound - Pra-Ga-ambar i.e. one who has proceeded from the heaven.

'Malaun' in Arabic is the Sanskrit word 'maleen' signifying anything 'dirty' or 'spoiled'.

Aafat is the Islamic corruption of the Sanskrit word 'aapatti'. (आपत्ती)

Indian products being very popular in Arab markets, Indian merchants acquired a dominant position as sole suppliers. Indian products consequently moulded Arabic idiom and expressions. For instance, various kinds of Indian swords were referred to as Handuwani, Hindi, Saif-al-Hind, Muhannid and Hinduani.

W.H.Siddiqi notes[1] "The Arab civilization grew up intensively as well as extensively on the riches of Indian trade and commerce. The nomadic Arabic tribes became partially settled communities and some of them lived within walled towns, practised agriculture and commerce, wrote on wood and stone, feared the gods and honoured the kings."

Hindu

Some people wrongly believe that the Arabs used the word Hindu as a term of contemptuous abuse. This belief appears unwarranted from the instances quoted above as also from the fact that attractive and favourite daughters were endearingly addressed by the Arabs as Hinda and Saifi Hindi, since they regarded India as their spiritual and cultural fatherland. The Arabs also termed mathematics as Hindisa.

Jats

Jats formed part of the Indian communities who went abroad on administrative and military duties. There were therefore several

(1) India's Contribution to World Thought and Culture, volume published by the Vivekananda Rock Memorial Committee, 1970.

Jats who held important positions in Arab lands from pre-Muslim times. The fourth Caliph Ali entrusted the Muslim treasury to a Hindu Jat on the eve of the battle of Jabal. Mohammad's wife Ayesha was treated by a Jat practitioner of the Ayurvedic system.

Shaivites And Vaishnavites

Hindus in Arabia worshipping the Shivling in the Kaba in pre-Muslim times were known as (शिवभज) Siyabaja alias Sibabaja. The suffix 'bhaja' alias 'baja' signifies adoration, worship and prayer.

The first syllable 'Siya' in the term Siyabaja quoted above is proof that the Shia sect of the Muslims derives its name from the Vedic deity Shiva. Correspondingly, Sunnis are earlier Vaishnavites. The Shiya-Sunni cleavage adds Islamic arguments and overtones to an earlier, peaceful Vedic distinction.

Sannyasins

Hindu Sannyasins wearing traditional orange-coloured apparel are referred to in Arab chronicles such as the Tarikh-i-Tabari as Ahmara ur Hantra. During the period of the first Caliph, Abu Bakr when Vedic culture had not yet been completely uprooted from Arabia Hindu sannyasins used to deliver discourses on Vedic culture at Arab congregations.

Hindu Reputation

Hindus from Sindh were preferred by Arabs to fellow Muslims from Turkey and Khorasan for their expertise and honesty in banking, accounting and treasury jobs.

Referring to the intellectual leadership of Vedic scholars in every field of learning Yaqubi an Arab historian of 897 A.D. records "The Indians are people of science and are deep-thinkers. They surpass everybody else in every science. Their judgment in astronomical problems is the best. They are highly advanced in the science of medicine. They have an unaccountably large number of volumes on diverse subjects."

Vedic Treatises

The Arab like other people of the world derived all their technical guidance in every branch of study such as astronomy and mathematics entirely from India. For instance, the Sanskrit astronomical treatise Brahma-Sphuta-Siddhanta in Arabic translation is known as Sind-Hind, while another Indian treatise, Khanda-Khadyaka is known in Arabic as Arkand.

Siddiqi's article adds "These books reached Baghdad in 771 A.D. through Indian scholars who helped Al Fazari and Yaqub-bin-Tariq in rendering them into Arabic. It is said that in 733 A.D. an Indian astronomer inspired Caliph Kansur for the study of Indian astronomical works. And the Caliph was extremely impressed by Indian astronomy. A later influx of Hindu learning in the same direction was due to the intellectual influence exercised by the ministerial Barmak family under Harun-al-Rashid. Notable Indian influence is evidenced from Al-Fazari's Kitab-uz-Zij (astronomical tables) compiled in the second half of the eighth century A.D. The cupola of the earth (Qubbatul Ayin) recorded as Arin is according to Kramers, a corrupt reading of Ujjayini...."

An Arab translation bureau (Baitul Hikmat) was entrusted with translating Vedic scientific treatises. Among the translators were two Indian scholars Manka and Dhan alias Doban. The latter is referred to as Ibn-i-Daban. There could be innumerable such Indian names. But the Islamic practice of giving names from other lands the Arabo-Islamic twist, has drowned many a renowned Indian name into Islamic oblivion.

Note of Caution

Here, however, we wish to sound a note of great caution for the guidance of all lovers of history. The chauvinistic claim that the founding of Islam led to a great revival of art and learning must never be accepted at its face value. In fact the establishment of Islam led to the extinguishing of all lights of knowledge and culture and plunging the world into the abyssmal morass of crime and ignorance. Islam holds a record of rape and slaughter of

educational establishments and the pillaging and burning of all libraries throughout the world on the plea that nothing except the Koran ought to be allowed to survive. The Arab sword having tasted blood and being busy in loot, the Arabs had no time, patience or aptitude to learn anything from the people they raped, robbed and killed. Does a robber, rapist, massacrer and murderer ever seek tuition from his victim? And is the victim in any mood and position to impart profound knowledge to his tormentor? Does not a robber laugh in derision at the erudition of his victims since his illiterate sword is able to turn their scholarly heads into minced meat? Are not Muslims among the most backward, and illiterate inartistic people of the world even though they have been forced to take to peaceful professions for the last two centuries? Therefore, all those concerned with history must realize that all Arab translations and learning of Sanskrit texts belong to the pre-Muslim era. Muslim writers have deftly ascribed them to the Muslim era. This is only one kind of forgery and fraudulence but Muslim history is replete with innumerable such falsifications. Harun-al-Rashid's enlightened outlook may be a total Muslim fiction which needs to be thoroughly investigated. He may even be a fictitious character.

Abu Umar Jahiz of Basra (who died around 868 A.D) has recorded in his chronicle titled 'Risalt-i-Fakharussaudan' al al-Baidan "I have found the Indian people extremely advanced in astrology and mathematics.....they occupy a prominent position in the field of medical science and can cure serious ailments. They are experts at carving stone figures and *make colour decorations on building arches*. They are inventors of chess which is one of the best intellectual sports. Their swords are very sharp and they are experts in swordsmanship. Their mantras can neutralize poisons."

Siddiqi's article states that the Arabs learnt the decimal system and every branch of mathematics such as arithmetic, algebra, geometry and trigonometry from Indians.

Sanskrit words in the Koran

Another Muslim writer Sulaiman Nadvi points out that at least

four Hindi or Sanskrit words have been frequently used in the Quran. These are ambar, musk (i.e.Kasturi), Zenjabil (i.e.ginger) and Kafur (i.e.Karpur) alias Camphor. The Buddha is also mentioned in the Quran as Fil-Kife (i.e. belonging to Kapilvastu).

The other Indian words met with frequently in Arabic literature are sandal (chandan), tanbul (tambul), karnaful, nilofar, bel, jayaful, trifala, balilah, halila, Kaifas (i.e. Karpas alias cotton), chhit (chhint), narjit (narikela), ambuj, fulful (pippali) etc.

Our remarks in this chapter are not confined to Saudi Arabia alone (because that is a current political division) but to the culture of all Arabs of whatever region.

Dharma Pramukh

A Vedic Dharma Pramukh stationed at Baghdad in pre-Islamic times was the spiritual head of the region. His headquarters was known as Nava Vihar and was established by a Hindu, Vedic monarch as stated in Masalikul-Absarfi-Mamalikul-Amsar chronicle written by Al-Umari. The Dharma Pramukh was in short referred to only as Pramukh (i.e.'chief'). In course of time laxity in Sanskrit pronunciation changed that title to Barmak. The last Hindu Vedic incumbent Barmak of Baghdad had received his Vedic training in Kashmir. He was converted to Islam through terror and torture by neo-Islamic Arab invaders. It was that Hindu, and Vedic Barmak family which ruled over Iraq even after conversion to Islam.

Baghdad

Siddiqi's article informs us that the name of the city Baghdad, (which was a centre of Hindu, Vedic learning) is itself of Sanskrit derivation. Bagh means 'God' and 'dad' is 'given by', hence Baghdad signifies a city given by God. Bhagwad-Dutt (भगवद्-दत्त) is the Sanskrit term. This derivation belies the Muslim claim that Baghdad was built by Caliph Al-Mansur in 762-63 A.D. and that it was scientifically planned by him with the help of Indian engineers and architects. It is circular in design and is claimed to be the first of Muslim cities. What is meant by the term first Muslim

city is that it was the first big renowned Vedic city captured and ruined by Islam outside Saudi Arabia.

If Baghdad was among the first few cities of Islam, it should have been named Islamabad, Allahabad or Mohammadabad. How come that it was given a Sanskrit name commemorating the Vedic name for God, Bhagwan?

Secondly, if it was a city built with the help of Hindu engineers and Hindu science and has a Hindu name, how could it be a Muslim city?

Thirdly, we are told that the city was founded in 762-63 A.D. Can a whole city be planned, built, inhabited and named all in one year? How many years does it take to plan a city, survey and acquire land, then to develop it, order building-material, raise buildings and populate the city?

And if Baghdad was newly created as a Muslim city, how was it an ancient centre of Hindu learning?

All such cross-questioning reveals the utter falsity of Muslim claims and the utter gullibility of modern historians in just swallowing any Muslim claim without even the least examination. Another very important conclusion which emerges from the above Muslim version is that Baghdad far from being built in 762-63 A.D. was subjected to a terrible sack and general massacre in that year. Almost overnight the entire populace was terrorized into accepting Islam and from that day Baghdad was proclaimed a Muslim city. Consequently all its Vedic temples were advertised to be Muslim mosques and tombs. *This is a graphic instance of how in Islamic terminology 'built' a city implies conversely its plunder and ravage.*

History itself has been concocted. As everybody was forced to become a Muslim not a soul was left to write about the terror and torture with which Baghdad was transformed into a Muslim city. This is true not only of Baghdad but of all lands overrun by Islam. Everyone has been forever silenced and none is ever allowed to tell the story of how entire regions were overnight turned

Muslim as though by a magic wand. *This is proof that falsification or suppression of history has ipso facto become a basic Muslim tenet.* Individuals and realms have been trained never to probe into how or when they became Muslim, but merely to keep repeating the fancied glories of Islam.

History of the Koran

In the introduction to his book on the Koran, the author N.J. Dawood, himself a Muslim, notes that "For Muslims it (the Koran) is the infallible word of God, a transcript of a Tablet preserved in heaven, revealed to the prophet Mohamad by the Angel Gabriel. Except in the opening verses and some few passages in which the Prophet or the Angel speaks in the first person, the speaker throughout is God.....At the Kaba, the Meccans worshipped not only Allah, the Supreme Semitic God, but also a number of female deities whom they regarded as the daughters of Allah....According to Muslim tradition one night in Ramadhan, about the year 610, as he was asleep or in a trance the Angel Gabriel came to him and said 'Recite'. He replied 'What shall I recite?' The order was repeated three times, until the angel himself said 'Recite the name of your Lord who created man from clots of blood'. (Koran means recital). God speaks in the first person plural which often changes to the first person singular or the 3rd person singular in the course of the same sentence. 'Recite, Your Lord is the most beautiful one who by the pen taught man what he did not know'?....When he awoke, these words, we are told, seemed to be 'inscribed upon his heart'.... *Mohamed who disclaimed power to perform miracles firmly believed that he was the messenger of God sent forth to confirm previous scriptures. The Koran accused the Jews of corrupting the scriptures, and the Christians of worshipping Jesus as the Son of God....* The Koranic revelations followed each other at brief intervals and were at first committed to memory by professional remembrancers. During Mohamed's life-time verses were written on palm leaves, stones and any material that came to hand. Their collection was completed during the Caliphate of Omar, the 2nd Caliph, and an [illegible]thorised version was established

during the Caliphate of Othman, his successor (644-56)...the chapters were arranged generally in order of length, the longest coming first and the shortest last....The Koran contains many statements which, if not recognized as altogether obscure, lead themselves to more than one interpretation.....About the cryptic Arabic letters which head certain chapters of the Koran....various theories have been put forward by Muslim and Western scholars to explain their meaning but none of them is satisfactory....no one knows what they stand for. Traditional commentators dismiss them by saying Allah alone knows what he means by these letters''.[2]

That in short is a general history of the Koran. Let us now critically examine it.

(1) The statement that the Koran is the infallible word of God is untenable, since the Koran contains numerous letters, words and statements which nobody understands.

(2) Since the Koran was ostensibly given out in Arabic, it was obviously intended only for the Arabs and not for anybody else since Arabic was not a universal language.

(3) It is known that Mohamed could neither read nor write. If then he used to sit alone in a dark cave meditating who used to take down the long passages inspired in his mind?

(4) It is said that such inspired passages were written down (by whom?) on brick, stone, wall, or on any surface with anything. If that is so, Arabic scribbling scratched on such rough and nondescript surfaces with crude devices would never be decipherable.

(5) How was such heterogeneous material, scattered over different places and left to the mercy of the weather and intruders, ever collected together? What guarantee was there that all such written record was collected together and nothing was left out and nothing was added?

(6) How can such a heterogeneous record namely, tile, brick

(2) Pp. 9-10 Introduction to the book - THE KORAN by N.J Dawood, Penguin Classics, 4th revised edition, 1974.

stone and plaster of vastly varying sizes tints and Surfaces be ever kept together for 20 years? It will all look like junk and debris and get mixed up with other junk and debris.

(7) Why did Allah make Mohamed a vehicle or medium for the transmission of such a voluminous text when Allah knew that Mohamed could neither read or write? Or at least why did not Allah turn Mohamed into a great scholar-scribe overnight and provide him with good stationery to record the Koran?

(8) Since the present Koran took shape at the time of the third Caliph i.e 20 years after Mohamed's death, it is apparent that the Koran did not exist during Mohamed's own time and that therefore, the Koran as it is now compiled isn't the one Mohamed on earth heard from heaven.

(9) In any case since the Koran is not arranged in the order in which it was delivered but has been manhandled and its chapters have been serialized lengthwise from the longest to the shortest, obviously the present Koran upsets Allah's own order and therefore does not have Allah's authority, sanction or consent in the least. Things certified pure are invariably certified as 'untouched by hand'. In the case of the Koran it is all mixed up by several human hands violating Allah's own order and therefore the entire text has been messed up by ordinary Muslim mortals. Profuse adulteration must also be presumed.

(10) How could the heterogeneous debris of brick, tile and stone bearing the Koranic record be preserved in its proper order for two or three decades? Which was the place in which it was stored? If there was any such store, it should have been famous as a place of sacred pilgrimage. But there isn't any such.

(11) How could such scratched, etched and scribbled record be readable after two decades? The writing if there was any or whatever it was could never be decipherable after 20 years. The writing would absolutely vanish due to sandstorms, rain and shine or get totally garbled. Moreover, the Arabic script is of a type which can never withstand such weather-beating. The entire import

of its message can change if the outlines of Arabic lettering change even slightly. Moreover with crude scratching, scribbling and etching no profound, lengthy, spiritual text can ever be recorded in the Arabic or any script.

(12) One very important and penetrating objection is that if the Koran is the transcript of a tablet in heaven (as it is claimed to be) and was delivered in a particular sequence what right did the compilers, 20 years later, have to change the entire order and put any chapter anywhere? That was a flagrant violation of the sequence meant for the Koran by both Allah and his messenger, Mohamed.

(13) Many passages of the Koran dictated by Allah earlier were rescinded later. How then can be Koran claim to be a transcript of a Tablet in heaven ?

Once the Koran has been so mixed and messed up in violation of its sequence in the heavenly tablet what validity, relevance and sanctity can the present Koran have? Obviously none. Does not the recitation of a jumbled up and manhandled Koran constitute an insult to Allah and Mohamed ?

Yet another facet of the same issue is that the wording and the chapters of the Koran are such as to make no difference to anybody even if read or recited in any sequence. That implies that the subject-matter of the Koran does not deal with any step by step, logical argument where every succeeding statement proceeds from the preceding one. This indicates that the successors to Mohamed have treated the Koran as a rubble-bubble conglomerate of a wording all jumbled up in a bundle. One wonders how true Muslims do not repudiate such a Koran and brand its compilers as Kafirs!

Mohamed Upholds the Vedas

And now the most surprising thing of it all is that Mohamed himself actually upholds the Vedas.

To understand that, the reader may ponder over the words

underlined by me in N.J.Dawood's extract quoted above.

The words are "Mohamed who disclaimed power to perform miracles firmly believed that he was the messenger of God *sent forth to confirm previous scriptures*. The Koran accuses the Jews of corrupting the scriptures and Christians of worshipping Jesus as the Son of God."

Which are the 'previous Scriptures' referred to? Obviously they couldn't be the Talmud of the Jews and the Bible of the Christians because Mohamed accuses both the Jews and the Christians of violating the Scriptures. Naturally those 'previous Scriptures' which Mohamed claims to have been corrupted by the Jews and violated by the Christians are none other than the Vedas. It may also be noted that the 'Scriptures' are mentioned in plural because there are four Vedas. The plural doesn't apply to the Talmud and the Bible singly or even combined obviously because Mohamed denounced both the Jews and the Christians. Moreover the Scriptures more ancient than Jewish tradition, could only be the Vedas. Mohamed was right in firmly believing that he had been sent forth to confirm the previous Scriptures because sometime after the Mahabharat war the Arabs, having been cut off from Vedic civilization, needed somebody to remind them of the Vedas. This is further apparent from the fact that Arabs are known as Cushites and Semites. Cusha was the son of Rama, and Sem alias Shyam was the name of Krishna. Both being incarnations, all earthly people including the Arabs were the *Vedic followers of Rama and Krishna*.

Arabia was Cush's Empire

Cusha was the son of Rama. Africa and Arabia formed part of his empire. Consequently people from both the regions are known as Cushites. About this Sir William Drummond observes "Several of the descendants of Cham in the line of Cusha were indubitably established in Arabia from the earliest period of history."[3]

(3) P.294, Vols. III & IV ORIGINES, by Sir W.Drummond, printed by A.G. Valpy, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, London.

Rama

It may be noted that from Ramayanic times Rama and later his son Cusha were sovereigns of the world Vedic administration.

Krishna

From the Mahabharat times Lord Krishna became the acknowleged world deity. He was known as Balkrishna, Shyam and Kanha. Consequently, the sovereignty of the line of Cusha of pre-Mahabharat times got connected later with the name Cham alias Shyam. The term Semitic originates in Lord Krishna's epithet, Shyam.

On Page 364 (Vols. III & IV) of his book Sir W.Drummond mentions a river named Rama in Arabia.

Shiva Stone

On page 368 he notes that Amru... chief of one of the most ancient tribes... compelled to cede Mecca to the Ishmaelites, threw the black stone and two golden antelopes into the nearby well Zamzam. This is evidence of sacred Vedic idols that had been consecrated in the Kaba.

Vedic Culture

After noting that Tsabaism was the religion of the ancient Arabians Drummond adds on page 411 of his book (Vol. III & IV) that "Tsabaism was the universal religion of mankind when Abraham received his call.....Their doctrines were probably extended over all the civilized nations of the earth." That was exactly worldwide Vedicism mentioned as Shaivism (Tsabaism).

Deities in the Temple of Kaba

From page 439 onwards Drummond mentions some of the 360 divine idols consecrated in the Kaba temple in Mecca before Mohamed raided that shrine and destroyed the idols.

One idol was that of a bird. That was obviously of Garud (the eagle). Pictures of it from ancient Arabian relics are available.

Another deity Al Debaran was obviously of Dev-Varun i.e. God Varun.

Al Dsaizan was Shani alias Saturn.

Allat is mentioned in the Koran as the idol of a female deity. Obviously the current Islamic term Allah is that same deity. Alla is one of the Sanskrit names of the Mother Goddess

Al Ozi alias Ozza is Oorja-the Sanskrit word for divine energy alias Maya.

Al Sharak was Shukra i.e. Venus.

Auds or Aud was the deity Uddhav.

Awal is mentioned as one of the deities. Awal means first. Its name suggests that it was Ganesh because in Vedic tradition in all ceremonies Ganesh is to be worshipped at the very start of the ritual.

Bag - This is obviously Bhagwan i.e. Lord Vishnu. It is my finding that the central deity in the vast sprawling Kaba temple - complex in Mecca city was of Lord Vishnu reclining on the celestial cobra, as the progenitor and sustainer of the cosmos. This is dealt with in a special chapter in this volume.

Bajar - This is mentioned as an idol but in fact it was Vajra, the thunderbolt missile which Indra, (the Lord of Heaven in the Vedic pantheon) wields.

Kabar- is the deity Kuber, the chief of the divine treasury and the Lord Protector of the north.

Duar - alias Dar was Indra.

Dsu al Chalasat - was Devi Cali i.e. Goddess Kaali.

Dua Shara - was Deveshwar i.e. Lord of the Gods.

Habal - was Bahuball

Geber - was Graha - the nine-planet combination or one of them.

Madan - The God of Love was one of the deities.

Manaph - was the idol of Manu.

Manat - was Somnath.

Al Nasr - was (again) the eagle.

Obodes - was Bhoodev i.e. the earth personified as a deity.

Asaph - (son of Amru) and Nayalah (daughter of Sahal) were two other deities. The latter could be Neel Saraswati.

Rareeah - was Rajesh i.e. god as King of Kings.

Redsa - was another deity. This is the Sanskrit name Riddhi. All these names are badly mutilated beyond recognition as Islam disfigured everything it pounced upon such as men, women, children, idols, temples, their names, forts and palaces. The first to be maimed and disfigured beyond recognition was the pre-Mohamed history of Arabia itself and of all other countries overpowered by Islam.

Saad - was the deity of good fortune. Obviously it is the Sanskrit name Siddhi. The name Siddiq is Sanskrit Sadhak.

Sair - was Shree alias Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth.

Sakiah - is the deity Shakra of Vedic mythology.

Sawara - was Shiva Eshwar.

Shems - was the Sun i.e. Suryas.

Wad - is Budh i.e. Mercury, as in 'Wednesday'.

Yagudh - was a deity partly lion like the Sphinx or the Narasimha.

Yauk - is the Yaksha of Vedic legend.

Zuhrat - was Venus.

"In the inscriptions from Hajja and its neighbourhood is mentioned a votive vessel dedicated by members of two tribes called Rama and Somia."[4]

(4) P.88, The Background of Islam, by H. Stj. B.Philby, publishers M/s Whitehead Morris, Alexandria,Egypt 1947.

Both the above names indicate that in ancient times Arabic tribes were named after Vedic deities, Rama of the solar dynasty and Soma, the Moon.

"Elephants....formed a prominent feature of the cavalcades to leave an indellible impression on the long memory of the Arabs."[5]

In our own time Arabia is a stark desert. Even camels there have to go without water for days together. An elephant needs not only enough water to drink, bathe and frolic-in but also luxuriant forests to feed on. How many thousands of years ago must Arabia have had dense forests and wide, deep rivers! At that antiquity Arabia was a country steeped in Vedic culture. The elephant is an integral part of Vedic culture. Ancient copies of the Koran in Arabia have a decorative border of elephant figures. Some of those are illustrated in Emil Esin's book titled **Mecca the Sacred and Medina the Radiant.** Decorating the Koran with elephants indicates the ancient Arabic reverence of the elephant-headed Ganesh. In Vedic tradition Ganesh is the God who is worshipped first at every ritual and He is also the God of Learning and knowledge. Elephants also formed an important part of the cavalry of Vedic sovereigns. Consequently, the existence of elephants in ancient Arabia and their association with the Koran indicate that Arabia was a part of the ancient worldwide Vedic culture.

An 'Elephant Road' *is traceable in Arabia (leading to Medina).* Mohamed was born *in the 'year of the Elephant'. The way in* which Arab Muslims *thoroughly destroyed all pre-Mohamed history,* may be judged from Philby's *observation that "the Arab historians have nothing to tell us of the ancient Kingdoms....For all practical purposes apart from the tribal genealogies and the legends attached to them Arabian history began for them with the notorious Dhu Huwas and the affair of Ukhdud, while the real historical material of the preceding two centuries has been spread out in a fantasy of Methuselahs to bridge the gap between the age immediately preceding the birth of Islam and the days of Sheba's queen".*[6]

(5) P. 117, *ibid.* (6) P. 123, *ibid.*

Alfred Guillaume has in his book on Islam recorded that in pre-Islamic Arabia, trees were regarded as sacred as deities were supposed to reside in them. Rags used to be hung on trees by the devout. These are obviously Hindu, Vedic traditions since similar practices are observed in India.

Krishna Paintings on Kaba Walls

He also records "It is credibly reported that when Mohamed entered Mecca in triumph in the year 630, paintings of Jesus and the Virgin Mary among others were still visible on the inner walls of the Kaba. He ordered all paintings except that of the Virgin and Child to be expunged; this painting was seen by an eye-witness as late as 683 when so much of the Kaba had been destroyed by fire that it had to be rebuilt".[7]

The above extract gives one a glimpse of the extent of suppressed information concerning the Kaba of pre-Islamic times. The entire Muslim world is sworn to strict secrecy on the origin of the Kaba and its annual pilgrimage. Unlike other communities which eagerly and openly discuss their pilgrimages the average Muslim is very secretive about his visit to the Kaba. Muslims have been traditionally trained to do so. They dare not know or disclose signs of the Vedic origin of the Kaba.

What Christian writers mistook to be the paintings of Jesus and Mary were actually of iesus Chrisn and his foster mother Yashoda because the Kaba has been basically a Vedic temple. The Arabic greeting 'Salam walekum' is also the garbled Sanskrit expression 'Ishalayam Balakam' implying obeisance or holy remembrance of the "Child-God (i.e. Krishna) consecrated in the Temple."

The painting inside could not be of Jesus and Mary because the Kaba temple had been in the possession of Mohamed's family which was not Christian. That family was a branch of the Kuru Hindu family and they were hereditary priests of the temple. The

(7) P.13 Islam, by Alfred Guillaume, Penguine Books Ltd, Hammonds Worth, Middlesex, UK, 1954.

temple had 360 idols. Christianity doesn't have so many idols to worship. Therefore in the usual Vedic custom the Kaba temple not only had idols but also paintings of Vedic deities and episodes from Hindu epics and legends such as those depicting Lord Krishna's alias Hari's life. That is why the premises are known as Hariyam. In course of time these got destroyed because of assaults by vandals. What paintings, idols and inscriptions exist inside today nobody knows because the temple is never opened to outsiders.

Vedic Wedding among Arabs

Arab tradition requires that "The wedding must not take place when the moon is under eclipse, nor when she is in the sign of scorpio".[8] These astrological considerations show that even Muslim weddings are a carryover of Arabia's Vedic past.

Arabs set the Pattern for Islamic Falsification of History

What Philby has said about Arab historians wiping out all pre-Muslim history, applies equally to all Muslim countries throughout the world. Afghanistan to Iran, Turkey, Algeria and Morocco.

Western scholars who have tried to study the histories of those countries from Muslim authors have invariably found them to gloss over all pre-Mohamed details and make false claims about Islamic regimes.

Despite such mortifying experience historians seem to assume generally that Muslims have been prolific writers of historical chronicles. It would be appropriate to reconcile these two contradictory views and to alert future historians.

Muslims no doubt have been prolific writers of chronicles but why? Not to guide readers but no mislead them. Their main objective was to erase all pre-Mohamed history from the public mind plus also create a deep hatred for it and make false claims about Islamic

(8) P.46, With the Pilgrims to Mecca, by Hadji Khan and Wilfred Sparrow, 1902.

deeds. Therefore, Muslim chronicles ought to be looked upon as perfect specimens of historical fabrication. Yet, if scholars cultivate the skill of reading between the lines of Muslim chronicles they can still draw very valuable inferences even as forensic experts draw important conclusions from forged entries in a bank fraud or suppressed or distorted evidence in a murder case.

Soon after the imposition of Islam by force in Arabia the neo-Muslim Arabs first set the pattern for erasure of all pre-Mohamed history and making sky-high claims for everything Islamic. Having successfully tried out that pattern in Arabia that same method of suppressio veri and suggestio falsi in history-writing was rigorously enforced in all countries overrun by Islam. The result is that today the world has a plethora of Muslim writings which include only mumbo jumbo about pre-Muslim times and a lot of humbug of the post-Mohamed era. Before them the Greeks are found to have done the same after they were turned Christians.

Shiva and Ganga

Vedic Hindu tradition that every Shiva temple has a sacred water spring representing the Ganga, the celestial river is seen in the Zam Zam spring near the Kaba. The two 'G's in the word Ganga have been replaced by 'Z' to make the name sound as Zamza alias Zamzam.

The circum-ambulation of the Kaba seven times is also a Vedic custom. Chanting mantras while going round the Shiv emblem, as the Muslims do, is also an ancient Vedic practice.

Muslim Secrecy and Suppression

None is allowed to enter the Kaba temple which is also kept heavily shrouded. The pilgrims circumambulate the temple itself. Ancient inscriptions giving a clue to the pre-Islamic origin of the Kaba, etched on the walls inside the temple have remained an unexplored, closely-guarded secret. Muslims dread to reveal to the world the pre-Muslim history of the Kaba.

Non-Muslims coming by land are stopped outside a 35 mile

radius from the Kaba. Muslim pilgrims entering the Kaba have to shave themselves, have a bath, cast off their clothes and wrap themselves with two white sheets. All these are Hindu customs still observed in several south Indian temples. No animal is allowed to be slaughtered and no meat is allowed in the Kaba precincts during the pilgrimage. These are hoary and holy Vedic practices alien to Islam. All this proves that the Kaba is a Vishnu shrine of great antiquity where Hindus of the world congregated for their annual pilgrimage. That was a time when every human being in the world was a Hindu i.e. a Vedist.

Arabian Fire-Worship

Mecca and Madina are the Sanskrit words (मखमेदिनी) Makha-Medini i.e. the land of fire worship. Other ancient names of those cities are Macoraba and Yathrib respectively. Macoraba is a corruption of the Sanskrit name Mahadeva (i.e. Lord Shiv), while Yathrib signifies a place of pilgrimage (i.e.Yatra Sthan यात्रा स्थान).

Kaba Secrecy

The complete secrecy that is being maintained by the Muslims about the interior of the Kaba may be judged from Lowell Thomas's observation that "Very few people ever enter the Kaba, but those who do keep their eyes down in an attitude of reverence and humble submission to the divine power."[9]

The dread of Allah is invoked obviously to prevent, even those few who enter the inner sanctuary of the perpetually shrouded Kaba, from being too inquisitive and scanning the inscriptions on the walls and traces of uprooted idols.

The Saffron-coloured Arab City

Saffron is a colour exclusively representing Vedic culture. All historic buildings, cities or monuments in north India are in

(9) P.64, With Law[illegible] Arabia, by Lowell Thomas.

saffron-coloured stone. Currently, most of those edifices are being wrongly ascribed to Muslims as tombs, townships, forts or mosques.

Similar deserted saffron-colour stone buildings and deserted cities-remnants and reminders of the pre-Islamic Vedic civilization of Arabia, lie scattered, unknown and neglected in the desert wastes of Arabia. Islamic fanaticism has become such a deterrent that the Arabs neglect, write off and forget stupendous architectural achievements of their pre-Islamic antiquity and ascribe all seized edifices to the Muslim era.

Lowell Thomas gives a rapturous account, of such a deserted saffron-coloured city from pages 164 to 174 of his book titled : **With Lawrence of Arabia.** He notes "the immemorial and perfect ruins of a lost civilization....known as a rose-red city, half as old as time carved out of the enchanted mountains of Edom....lies deep in the wilderness of the desert not far from Mount Hor....There in front of us, many miles from any signs of civilized habitation, deep in the heart of the Arabian desert, was one of the most bewildering sites ever revealed to the eye of man, a temple a delicate and limpid rose, carved like a cameo from a solid mountain wall. It was even more beautiful than the temple of Theseus at Athens or the Forum at Rome. After trekking nearly a hundred miles across the desert to come suddenly face to face with such a marvellous structure fairly took our breath away. it was the first indication we had that we had at last reached the mysterious city of Petra, a city deserted and lost to history for fourteen hundred years....the columns, pediments and friezes have been richly carved....many of the designs have been disfigured....the temple was carved from the cliff almost 2000 years ago....the city lay farther down....several hundred thousand people must once have lived there. Only the more insignificant buildings have perished and even of these some striking ruins remain. The upper part of the valley is the site of ancient fortresses, palaces, tombs and amusement resorts....all carved out of the solid rock. The lower part was apparently a water circus where the people indulged in aquatic sports and tournaments.....All the travellers who have visited Petra have marvelled at the wonderful

tints of its sandstone. It is carved from rock the colours of which beggar description at certain hours of the day. In the morning sunlight they are like great rainbows of stone flashing out white, vermilion, saffron, orange, pink and crimson....At sunset they glow with strange radiance. Stairs carved from the rock, some more than a mile in length, run to the top of nearly all the mountains around Petra.....

"We climbed one staircase ascending to a height of one thousand feet above the city to the temple which the Arabs call El Deir....150 feet high, surmounted by a gigantic urn, and decorated with heads of Medusa....

"An even greater staircase winds up to the Mount of Sacrifice....On the summit are two obelisks and two altars...Near the altars are the two great monoliths each about 24 feet high....carved out of solid rock and used in their Phallic worship....."

The photo facing page 170 of these rock-cut temples is captioned "we wandered for days but never came to the end of the temples and buildings carved from the solid rock."

The significant points to be noted in the extracts quoted above are several. Mount Hor is named after Lord Shiv who is known as Har in Vedic lore. The saffron colour of the rock-cut temples, palaces etc. is the one prized by Vedic culture.

The name Petra is obviously a mal-pronunciation of the Sanskrit word 'prastar' meaning stone. The rock-temples and other patterns said to be at least 2000 years old are obviously pre-Islamic because Islam is only 1373 years old (as in 1996 A.D.).

The name El Dair is obviously an Arab malpronunciation of the Sanskrit word Devalaya i.e.temple. Reference to the urn, to an altar for sacrificial fire, the statue of Medusa and the Shiva emblems (which Westerners misrepresent as phallic worship) are all indicative of Arabia's ancient Vedic culture. Medusa is Mahadevas (महादेवस्).

Muslims Don't know the Meaning of Islam

Before the Arabs were terrorized into calling themselves Muslims in the 7th century they were all Vedists alias Hindu who worshipped 360 images in their Kaba temple.

Yet Muslims are not supposed to pry into their pre-Muslim history. Consequently, though there are in the world today any number of Mullas, Maulvis, Ayatollahs, Aga Khans, Syednas, Mujawars, Imams, Sufis and Fakirs, none of them knows even the A-B-C of Islam because they are all totally ignorant of the basic fact that Islam is a splinter of Vedic culture.

Ask any Muslim, whether a lay-man or one claiming to be an expert theologian, to explain what 'Islam' means etymologically. And he is bound to answer that Islam means 'peace' or 'surrender'.

The very wide divergence in the connotation of the two words 'peace' and 'surrender' should itself convince anybody of the basic flaw in Islamic teaching and thinking.

Islam is Ishalayam i.e.Temple of God

Islam doesn't mean either 'peace' or 'surrender'. Islam is the Sanskrit compound 'Ishalayam' meaning the 'Abode of God'. Those tending to explain Islam as peace or surrender, in terms of its Arabic meaning are likely to point to the twin Hebrew word 'Shalome' as meaning 'peace'. But there lies the catch. How could Islam and Shalome, spelled differently, have the common connotation 'peace' and also 'surrender'?

Therefore, both the Jews and the Arabs need to be told that Shalome and Islam are two malpronunciations of the Sanskrit word 'Ishalayam' meaning 'God's Abode.'

The 'peace' and 'surrender' only become circumstantial derivatives because when a disturbed, agonized soul goes to the temple he surrenders himself to the deity and seeks peace from distracting worries and mental torment.

All the same, the term Ishalayam stands for the Abode of god and not for peace or surrender.

In the case of the Jews the Dome on the Rock in Jerusalem was their Ishalayam, while in the case of the Arabs it was the Kaaba which was their Ishalayam i.e. temple of God Vishnu alias Krishna where they sought peace.

In that temple in the Kaaba in the central sanctorum there used to be a large image of Lord Vishnu reclining on the coils of the great celestial cobra, surrounded by 360 other gods.

Nabi

Mohamad is termed 'Nabi' alias 'Nabhi' because 'Nabha' (नभः) in Sanskrit means 'the high heavens' and Nabhi (spelled as 'Nabi') signifies a messenger who has dropped from heaven.

The term 'prophet' too is Sanskrit (प्रपत) Pra-pat and has the same connotation, as explained elsewhere in this volume.

Festivals

Every Muslim festival is known as 'Id.' Muslims don't know why? 'Id'. is a Sanskrit word. The Vedic Sanskrit theological dictum (अग्निं इडे पुरोहितम्) '*Agnim iday purohitam*', asserts that fire gets precedence in all ritual worship. Since Islam is a splinter of the ancient Vedic civilization all its sacred days were attended by the ancient Vedic fire worship.

Bakri-Id was a Day of Cow Worship

In Arabic the word 'Bakar' signifies a cow. Consequently Bakri-Id was a day set aside for cow-worship. Since Islam is a splinter of the ancient Vedic civilization all its days of worship are known as Id. Therefore so-called Muslim festivals are days of ancient Vedic fire worship.

In Vedic tradition supreme reverence attaches to the cow. She is regarded as the second mother of the whole of humanity. Because while a child's natural mother suckles him only, say, for two years, cow's milk is necessary to keep a man physically healthy and mentally

balanced during the rest of his life. Likewise bullocks provide animal power for agriculture. A cow's plasma is used for vaccination. Cow's urine and dung have numerous curative and medicinal uses besides being useful as fuel and manure. For all this the Vedic world paid the highest reverence to the cow as the supreme benefactor of humanity. To impress this lesson the day of Bakri-Id was set apart for cow worship. And yet the modern Indian Hindu convert Muslims oblivious of that sacred tradition do the very opposite namely slaughter cows and eat beef on Bakri-Id.

Since Romans too followed Vedic culture they too had their 'Ides' i.e. days of holy worship. That is why in Roman tradition Ides of March signified the days of worship of the Goddess (of plenty) Annapoorna at the commencement of the year.

Worship of the Gods

Id Milad-ul-Nabi was the day of worship of the residents of heaven i.e. of divinity. Instead it is these days dedicated to the memory of Mohamed.

Worship of the Ancestors

Id-ul-Fiter is a mal-pronunciation of the word 'pitar' i.e. ancestors. Around that day Arabs used to spend three days in the cemetery. That is to say it was a day of Shraddh, a day of remembrance of dead ancestors in grateful memory of their services to the dynasty. That 'Fiter' is a malpronunciation of the Sanskrit word 'pitar' will be apparent when it is realized that the Sanskrit word 'pitar' is actually written as 'father' in English. The term Id-ul-Fiter is, therefore a clear indication of the Arabs worshipping their ancestors by Vedic rites in their pre-Muslim days.

Sighting the Moon

The Islamic practice of sighting the moon before deciding on the day of each festival is also based on Vedic practice because under the Vedic almanac festive days are decided according to the phases of the moon. For instance, on the 4th day of every lunar fortnight (known as Chaturthi) orthodox Vedists alias Hindus take

their night meal only after moonrise time.

Ekadashi

Orthodox Hindus are enjoined to observe a fast on the 11th day of every lunar fortnight. That day is known as the sacred 11th day alias Ekadshi. Muslims too still retain that tradition as is apparent from their term 'Gyarahvi Sharief' i.e. the sacred 11th day.

Mohamed himself like a true follower of (स्मार्त) Smarta (orthodox) Vedic routine abstained from eating garlic or onion as is mentioned in the Hadiths.

India the Sacred Fatherland of the Arabs

According to Islamic tradition, Adam, the first man and prophet, descended on Indian soil from heaven and received here the first divine message (obviously Vedic because Adam is a synonym of Brahma, the Creator) from God. The Muslims also believe that Adam's eldest son Shith is lying buried at Ayodhya.....The Islamic Sijda (prostration), ahram (garb of worship during the Haj), towaf (circum-ambulation) of the Kaba are all pre-Islamic Vedic traditions. Mohamed is also quoted as remarking "From India comes the divine fragrance".

Muslim divines such as Nazzam, Ahmed, Fadl-al-Hudaibi and Amr-bin-Bakr al-Jahiz talked of the beatific vision or union with divinity sought in a yogic trance. Sufi Mansur's declaration 'Anal Haq' (I am the Truth) is the Upanishadic chant 'So aham asmi'. He visited India and learned from India the doctrine of 'hulul' i.e. the divinity of the human soul. Rabia Mansuri, an Arabic woman divine also preached the same Vedic doctrine. Bayazid Bistani was trained in the doctrine of Moksha alias Nirvana (i.e. fana in Arabic) by a Hindu recluse.

All sacred Vedic doctrines and practices have thus survived in Arabic tradition eluding the annihilating sweep of Islam. For instance, 'unity' i.e. 'ekatmata' (wahadatul wajud), the spiritual journey i.e. path (suluk), realization of th[illegible] ultimate truth through

four stages-jagrat, swapana, supta and turiya (i.e. nasut, jabrut,malkut, and lahut viz. meditation). Yoga is Zikr i.e. body-control, pranayam is habth-i-dum etc. The so-called Sufis were pre-Islamic Arab Hindu Sadhus who practised all these Vedic disciplines until Islam dragged them away all and plunged them into the vortex of international assault and strife.

Kalyan

Kalyan is a Sanskrit word signifying 'happiness' or 'ultimate satisfaction'. There is a village by that name near Bokhara city. The central tower of the city is also known as Kalyan and it stands out as a landmark of the ancient happy Vedic times.

Durga On the Nile

The Times of India (New Delhi) of June 20, 1978 carried on article by K.K.Khullar stating that an astrologer whose forefathers were priests in the Nav Vihar Hindu temple in Iraq had migrated to Cairo and set up his traditional business. In front of him he used to place a steel image of goddess Durga holding a drawn sword. Anyone expressing an ardent wish with palms joined in obeisance was granted his wish by the idol.

The Hindu goddess Durga alias Bhavani is depicted as an amazonian form of divinity, a tall hefty form, the long hair let loose and streaming at the back, a blood-red tongue protruding out fearfully as though to lick the enemy's blood, the fierce stare of the blood-shot eyes, the feet trampling a demon, the lion-mount mauling another demon and the goddess herself piercing her long spear into the torso of a half-man half-buffalo demon. From the neck of the goddess hangs a garland of skulls and bones.

That representation of the goddess was known as Durga alias Chandi alias Bhavani and was worshipped by all Vedic Kshatriyas to inspire in them the courage and determination necessary to protect their wards, and charges from demoniac and beastly forces with motherly fury, ferocity and courage.

A British author, R.G. Wallace says on page 7 of his book titled **Memoirs of India** (published 1824 A.D) that "throughout Afghanistan Hindus are numerous. They are found in considerable numbers as far as Arabia and the northen parts of Persia". These are not migrants from India but are remnants from the local populations who were converted to Islam overnight through threats and torture. Another writer adds "A pretty regular intercourse has been at all times kept up between India and Samarkand, Balkh and other northern cities where there are colonies of Hindus established from time immemorial and one of a great pilgrimage from Hindostan is the place called the 'fiery mouth' (Jwalamukhi) on the borders of the Caspian sea". (Page 126, Letters on India by Maria Graham, Longmans, London, 1814 A.D.)

Recent clandestine digging yielded a number of valuable Hindu relics at Ghazni which are since on display in the museum there. Ghazni (in Afghanistan) derives its name from the Sanskrit word 'Gaja' i.e. an elephant. Some marble slabs, carved on both sides to serve as screens, depicted figurative themes such as guards armed with clubs, standing within pointed horseshoe-shaped arcades with double-headed eagles, rows of dancing girls, a horse-rider, a lion, a mahout with an Indian elephant and the white marble statue of a Vedic deity with a number of attending deities. The face of the deity is obviously mutilated by Muslim invaders.

The Goddess Trinity

In the museum at Baghdad (Iraq) is an ancient statue of a lion carrying three goddesses standing viz. Lakshmi, Durga and Saraswati.

Ramallah

On the West bank of the Jordan river in the Gaza strip in Palestine is the city of Ramallah, meaning Rama the God. Jordan is the distorted form of 'Janardan' a Sanskrit term for divinity as the controller of human beings.

Allah is a Sanskrit name signifying the Mother Goddess. Islam has mistakenly adopted it to denote masculine divinity.

Ayodhya in India being Rama's captial is of hallowed memory in Vedic tradition. That the Arabs do have a sacred pre-islamic connection with Ayodhya has been mentioned earlier in this chapter. That is not because it is the burial place of Shith the son of Adam as Muslims are misleadingly taught but because it is the city of sacred memory where Rama the incarnation was born.

Ramazan

The memory of Rama is so sacred that all Muslims observe a month-long fast to pay homage to Rama. As such that month is known as Ramadan alias Ramazan. That is the Sanskrit term 'Ramadhyan' i.e. meditating on Rama. Sanskrit 'dh' is pronounced as 'Z' abroad. For instance, 'Dhyan Buddhism' is pronounced as Zen Buddhism in China and Japan. Consequently, Ramadhyan is spelled in Islamic tradition as Ramazan or Ramadan.

In the Vedic tradition in India the 9th day of the bright half of the month of Chaitra is Rama's birthday. Correspondingly pre-Islamic Arab tradition has retained the 9th month of the year for meditating on Rama. Fasts are always associated with Vedic worship. Islam retains that tradition too.

Ancient Hindu Palaces and Temples

Ancient Hindu temples and palaces still exist throughout the world but they have all been captured and are since being misrepresented as tombs, mosques and churches.

One such ancient Hindu palace is about 10 Km. from the heart of Kabul in Afghanistan. Eversince it was captured by Mohamad Ghaznavi the edifice is referred to by the Muslims as a palace of 40 pillars (Kasre Chehl Satoon). Hindu palaces and temples were always distinguished by rows of pillars.

Kaaba the International Vedic Shrine

A two-volume work, Travels in Arabia By John Lewis Burckhardt

(Henry Colburn, London, 1829) mentions (Page 163, Vol 1) "When the ancient Arabs performed their pilgrimage to the idols of Mecca that pilgrimage was fixed to a certain period of the year probably, autumn, for although the Arabs computed by lunar months they inserted one month every three years, and thus the month of the pilgrimage did not vary in its season as at present. The intercalation of the month was prohibited by the Koran....Thus its period became irregular and in the space of 30 years was gradually changed from the depth of winter to the height of summer." That intercalation was per Vedic astronomy.

Such Humpty-Dumpty short-circuiting of all subtle mathematical, astronomical calculations of the pre-Mohamed Vedic, Hindu era of the Arabs is graphic proof that from the moment Arabs were focrced into Islam they turned off the lights of all knowledge, and plunged the world into the abyss of ignorance, slavery and tyranny. Such corroboration has been ignored by historians hitherto in singing the praises of fancied Islamic scholarship.

The black stone (Sangay Aswad) representing the Hindu God Mahadev was retained by Mohamed (while smashing the other deities and burying them in the cellars of the temple) as a formless, faceless symbol of divinity. But its pedestal has been lost. What remains now is a cylindrical stone (cut into seven pieces but rejoined). Even that stone is half buried vertically in the outer surface of a corner wall of the Kaaba. Therefore, only half of its vertical curvature is visible outside the wall. The other half is embedded in the wall. Even the curvature of the stone which should be visible protruding above the surface of the wall is mostly covered with silver foil. Therefore the only portion of that damaged Shiving visible to the pilgrims is of the size of a cricket ball. That has been left uncovered by the silver sheet to afford a glimpse to the pilgrims of the surface of the original stone.

But the irony of the shrine now is that while in pre-Islamic times the Kaaba used to be a Vedic shrine freely accessible to world humanity, entry to it is now restricted only to those who are converts

to Islam. All non-Muslims are stopped at a point 35 miles distant from the Kaaba by land.

Since the sacred stone is fixed in the outer surface of the Kaaba wall none is allowed to visit the interior of the temple. The sanctum is forever shut to everybody. This secrecy is being maintained, it is believed, because there are Sanskrit inscriptions on the inner surface of the wall of the Kaaba sanctum and perhaps some traces of earlier idols and paintings too.

The Perambulation

On page 172 of his book Henry Colburn observes "In passing under the insulator arch in front of the Kaaba, called Bab-as-Salam, certain prayers are said. Other prayers are recited in a low voice, and the visitor then places himself opposite to the black stone and prays two Riktas, (Rikta is obviously Richa,the Vedic stanza) at the conclusion of which the stone is touched with the right hand or kissed. The devotee then begins the Towaf i.e. walk around the Kaaba (anti-clockwise). This ceremony is to be repeated seven times....Every circuit must be accompanied with prescribed prayers, which are recited in low voice and appropriated to the different parts of the building that are passed; the Black Stone is kissed or touched at the conclusion of each circuit.

While Muslims are not supposed to do any perambulation in any mosque Hindus invariably perambulate the deity in every temple. Therefore, the retention of the perambulatory tradition and touching the Shivling in the Kaaba is additional proof of its having been a Vedic shrine.

John Lewis Burckhardt observes (Pp. 177-78, **Travels in Arabia**) "The Mohamedan Haj or pilgrimage and the visit of the Kaaba are a continuation of an ancient custom. In like manner Szafa and Merona were esteemed by the old Arabians as holy places which contained images of the gods Motem and Nebyk, and here the idolators used to walk from one place to the other after their return from the pilgrimage to the Arafaat.

The above description clearly indicates that all Muslims are still continuing the rites of the ancient Vedic pilgrimage in all its details. The only difference is that they have destroyed the images of the Vedic deities. Arafat is the Sanskrit term Haripaad i. e. the (holy) feet of the (divine) Lord Hari.

Octagon and the Secret Inscription

The tall box-like Kaba sanctum is a corruption of the Sanskrit word Garbha Graha alias Gabha. Since Sanskrit 'Gow' is spelled cow' in the West, the word Gabha (i.e. sanctum) is being pronounced as Kaba.

Before Mohamed's invasion of the Kaba that international Vedic shrine was a very huge structure with its high walls, domes, spires and courts decorated with ornamental figures.

Jerusalem the city of Lord Krishna

Jerusalem is a city founded and named after Lord Krishna thousands of years ago when Arabs and Jews were Hindus. This is apparent from the very name Jerusalem which is a corruption of Yerusaleim. That in turn is a corruption of the orginal Sanskrit name Yedu-esh-alayam. 'Yedu-eesh' signifies the Lord of the Yedus i.e. Lord Krishna. Alayam indicates an abode, haven or shrine. Consequently Jerusalem alias Yedu-essh-alayam was a city founded around a Krishna temple. *That temple still exists. Muslims call* it Haram since Lord *Krishna was called Hari. Hariyam alias Haram* is a Sanskrit word *indicating a place i. e. shrine of Hari. That* temple is known the *world over as the Dome on the Rock. The* fact that it is octagonal *is a remarkable proof of its Hindu origin* because only Hindus *have a penchant for octagonal temples, palaces,* mansions and forts since *the Hindus alone have special names* and special *supernatural guards for the eight directions.*

One finds the *earliest mention of Jerusalem in the 19th century* B. C. when *Lord Buddha rose to fame in India. (Those tutored* to believe that *Lord Buddha lived in the 6th century B. C. may* read our *publication titled Some Blunders of Indian Historical*

Research to learn that Buddha needs to be ante-dated by 1300 years.) To the south of old Jerusalem is the sloping valley of Gehenna. On one side of it king Soloman had built an altar to Lord Krishna. Jew tradition calls him God of Moab which should in fact be God of Mathura, the birth place of Lord Krishna.

Around 996 B.C. King David (This name is an abbreviation of the Sanskrit term Devi-da i. e. 'Given by Goddess') captured Jerusalem from the Jebusites to make it his capital.

In 961 B. C. King Soloman built the first temple of the Judaists in Jerusalem. The deity was of course Lord Krishna alias Hari. That temple is a byword for opulence and grandeur because Lord Krishna is known to be a wealthy god. His capital, Dwarka was all made of gold, so goes the legend.

Cracks and crevices along the stones are filled with rolled pieces of paper petitions to the Almighty to rectify the wrongs done to the Jews.

The Jews still continue to observe the Hindu equivalent of the holy thread ceremony (known as Vrata-Bandh alias Maunji-Bandhanam in Sanskrit) by which a child from 5 to 8 years of age was inducted with a ceremonial ritual into a student life and sent to the Guru's hermitage to assimilate knowledge during a period of 12 to 20 years of concentrated meditative learning in an atmosphere of ascetic seclusion. The Jews call this ceremony Bar Mitzvah. For this too Jews go to the Wailing Wall but in a festive mood. The Jewish custom of breaking drinking glasses against the wall symbolizes their ancient Hindu tradition of breaking cocounts as an offering to Lord Krishna.

Thus for all occasions whether solemn or festive the Jews make the Wailing Wall the sacred location because it constitutes the only remnant of their sacred Krishna temple where all their religious and community ceremonies used to take place. The temple was destroyed. Ironically enough the wall also symbolized the "back to the wall" struggle for community regrouping regeneration that the Jews are waging against their Muslim, Communist, Nazi and

Christian opponents.

The old walled city of Jerusalem has within it three sacred hoary Hindu landmarks which have since been appropriated by its three warring factions. The Wailing Wall is one of them to which the Jews continue to stick. Muslim Haram (i.e. Hariyam - the Sanskrit term signifying a Krishna temple) is now the Mosque of Omar (Omar is the Sanskrit word Amar signifying immortal divinity.)

The church of the Holy Sepulchre has been retained possession of by the Christians. Since no person called Jesus was ever born (as proved in our book: **Christianity is Chrisn-nity**) his so-called grave in Jerusalem is a fake. Another fake grave of Jesus is claimed to be in far-away Kashmir in India. Yet it suits the Christian community and nations to hold on steadfastly to that myth without batting even an eyelid because the shrine has become their strong religious, financial and political stake.

The Hariyam (Dome on the Rock) Krishna temple even in Muslim hands retains its Hindu traditions as a bejewelled ornament in blue and gold, set in the midst of a wide paved platform. The temple (wrongly called mosque - or one may say that the Islamic word for a temple is mosque alias Masjid) is a perfect octagon covered with a golden dome.

The blue and gold combination is explained by the fact that Sanskrit, Hindu tradition describes divine incarnations as blue-blooded, and everything about Krishna is always golden. Octagon is also an exclusively Hindu sacred shape. To do real historic justice to Jerusalem (Yedu-eesh-alayam), the sacred city of Lord Krishna, all celebrations concerned with His life should be celebrated by all communities jointly at all holy locations in that city which are now being claimed separately by Jews, Muslims and Christians. It is the ISKCON (the International Society for Krishna Consciousness) which deserves to be put in the lead for conjoint Krishna festivals in the ancient city Jerusalem.

The defensive wall around Jerusalem itself bears unmistakable

Hindu marks. For instance, it has a Lions Gate and lotus flowers embossed in stone exactly as are found on ancient Hindu city walls, forts and temples throughout India.

That the rock around which the temple is built was the site where Abraham perpared to sacrifice Issac and from where Mohammad ascended to the heaven are myths propagated to mislead the gullible. Abraham is the Sanskrit Brahma, the Creator alias the first (divine) human figure. The initial 'A' attached to the name is an aberration of Jew and Arab speech. Similar Sanskrit words distorted with the addition of an additional 'A' are aplenty, such as 'Aqua, Apothecary, Able, Apple, and Abbot, In each case knock out the initial 'a' to discover the original Sanskrit word intact.

The belief that Caliph Abd al-Malik built the Dome on the Rock shrine in 691 A. D. is one of the thousands of Muslim canards. Its octagonal shape and rich decor have no Islamic justification at all.

That dome and the dome on the so-called Church of the Holy Sepulchre have the same diameter, which proves that that church too is an ancient Krishna temple.

The original Dome on the Rock was covered with 10,000 sheets of brass gilt-sheathed in pure gold. Such ostentation is consistent only with a Krishna temple.

The gullible public is told that the gilded plates collapsed by an earthquake in the 11th century. If that were true those could have been re-fixed. In fact the costly gilded Hindu sheets were removed, carried away and replaced with base lead sheets. Since admitting such plunder of a so-called Muslim shrine by Muslim raiders themselves is embarrassing to Islam, an earthquake has been planted as the cause.

What is further significant is the clear admission that the interior decor of the Dome (damaged by Islamic raiders) was re-done "by Indian artists during the 14th Century" (p 57 illustrated Weekly of India, December 30, 1979; article titled Holy Jerusalem by Christine M. Krishnasami). The inside of the dome is a rich sunburst of geometrical design in painted and gilded plaster."

That is a very important and significant detail. Why were Indian (Hindu) artists at all needed in a land of Arabs and Jews so far away from India? Does it not prove that Hindu artists were needed to restore to the building its original Vedic decore!

Modern Judaists Are Lord Krishna's Yedu Tribe

A psalm from the Jewish scripture runs thus "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? If I forget thee, Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the root of my mouth; yet, if I prefer not Jerusalem in my mirth (CXXXvii: 1).

The term Lord's Song is an exact translation of the Sanskrit term Bhagawad Geeta. Their word pronounced 'Saam' derives from the Saam Veda. The name of their state Israel is the abbreviation of the Sanskrit term Iswaralaya i. e. The Abode of God. The term Jerusalem pronounced by the Jews as Yerusalem is the Sanskrit word Yeduisalayam i. e. the township of Lord Krishna. Thus the Judaists belong to Lord Krishna's Yedu community. That is what gives them strength and guts to combat cruel, iconoclastic Muslim Arabs in spite of being overwhelmingly outnumbered.

Brahma's Footprints in the Kaaba

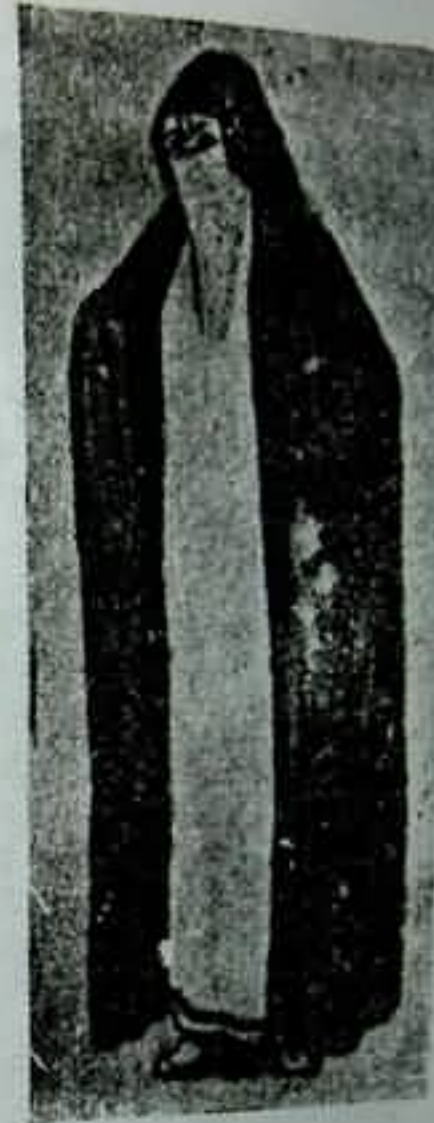
Ayats 90-91 of Sura No.3 of the Koran says :

"The first temple that was founded for mankind, was that in Becca (place of crowding, Mecca), blessed and a guidance to human beings.

"In it are evident signs, even the standing place of Abraham (i.e. the pedestal with a statue of Brahma), and he who entereth it is safe. And the pilgrimage to the temple is a service due to god from those who are able to journey thither."

Sura No: 2 (Verse -119).

"And remember when we appointed the Holy House (Kaaba) as man's resort and safe retreat, and said, "Take ye the station of Abraham for a place of prayer" : And we commanded Abraham and Ismail, "Purify my house for those who shall go in procession round it (परिक्रमा), and those who shall abide there for devotion and those who shall bow down and prostrate themselves." (साष्टांग दण्डवत). Kaaba is an abridged malpronunciation of the Sanskrit, Vedic term Garbha Graha. The Kaaba is also commonly called "Baitullah" house of God. The Kaaba is an oblong massive structure 55 ft. in length, 45 ft. in breadth, and the height somewhat greater than the length. At the south-east corner is the famous Hajar El - Aswad, or Black-Stone, according to Lt. Burton, an undoubted aerolite (i.e. meteoric stone, part of a broken star). The Kaaba stands in an open parallelogram of about 500 ft. by 350 ft. and is followed by colonnades, the pillars of which, made of various marbles, stand quadruple rows in the eastern side, and three deep on the other sides, and amount to 554. It has been rebuilt several times, but has not been materially altered since A.H. 1040 (1668 A.D)". From the above dimensions the edifice appears to be a seven-storyed structure like standard Vedic temples.

♦♦

This woman of ancient Arabia has the Vedic vermilion mark on her forehead, indicating that ancient Arabs were Hindus. This picture appears in the Bible Dictionary (appended to the Holy Bible edited by the American Review Committee) and also in the volume titled Long Missing Links by Aiyangar.

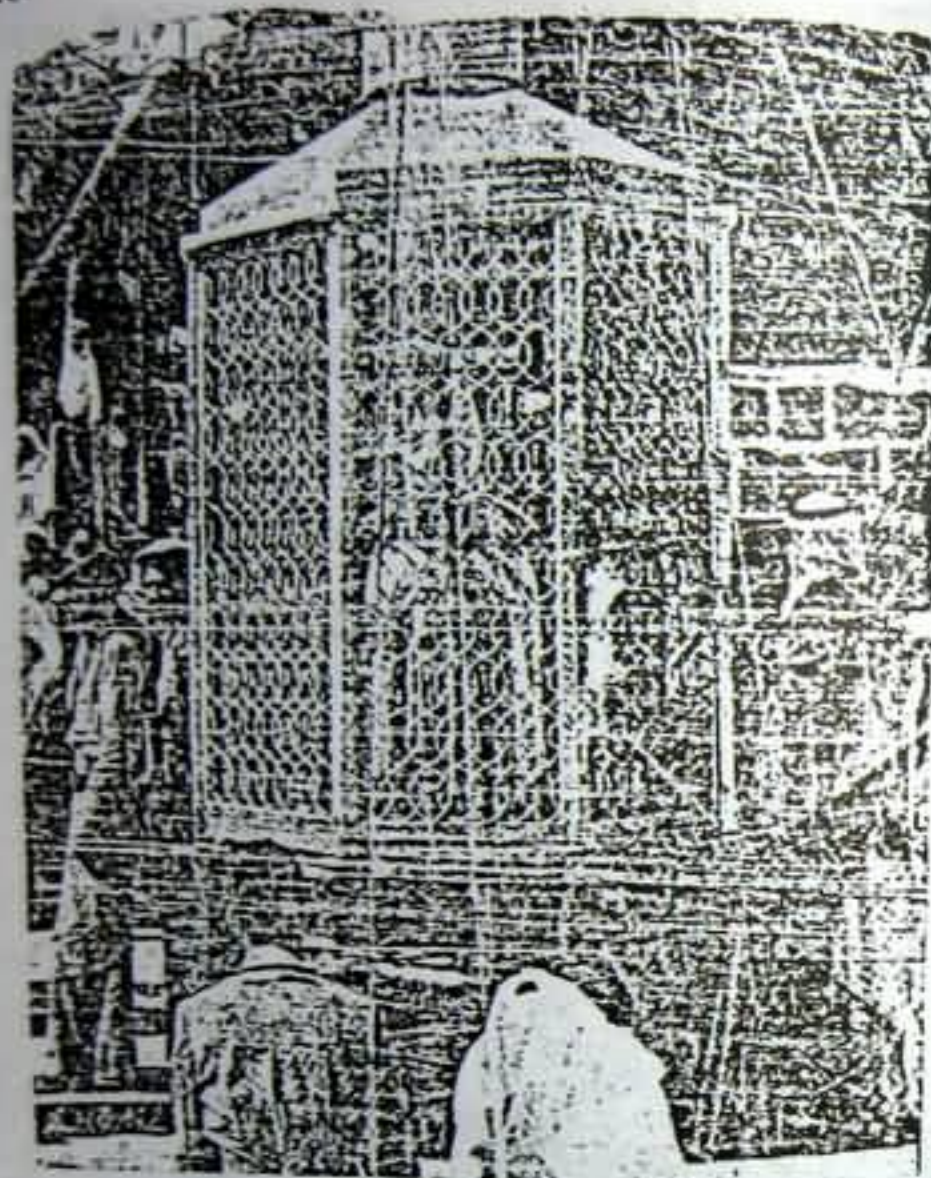
The flowing robes of Arab men and women, are meant to protect the body from extreme heat, intense cold and sand-storms.

An inscription-tablet of pre-Islamic Arabia (uprooted and damaged by neo-convert Arabs in the early days of Islam) exhibited in the British Museum, London.

The crescent and the Sun on top accord to the Vedic dictum (यावच्चन्द्र दिवाकरौ) 'Yawachchandra Diwakarau' signifying that the realm or the gift mentioned in the inscription should continue to last forever i.e. until the moon and the Sun exist.

Incidentally, this also proves that the 'crescent and star' design adorning Islamic flags is a Vedic symbol.

It may be seen on the saffron-coloured flag fluttering on top off the Jagannath temple in Puri (Orissa, India) and on the coins of Hindu Nepal, also.

These emblems depict that it is Lord Vishnu who provides the divine light for the Sun, moon and stars to shine forth. This again proves that the Kaaba was a Vedic, Vishnu temple.

Maqam-E-Ibrahim in the Kaaba (In Mecca) is the pedestal of Brahma. The octagonal grill (which is a Vedic design) protects the holy footprints which represent the start of the creation nearly 2000 million years ago. Since captured and cornered by the Muslims the Kaaba was originally an international shrine of the Vedic trinity which even Muslims perambulate.

Palestinian Maulvi Younus is now Ravanari Das and a Krishna devotee. Ravanari signifies Rama the enemy of Ravan. Mohammad Yahya Younus belongs to a Sunni family of Maulvis of the Akka mosque, Palestine for six centuries. He joined the Harekrishna (ISKCON) cult of Vedic culture in 1973. (published by the Delhi Weekly Organiser Jan-26, 1982) Younus alias Ravanari said "I declare that Krishna is the name of Allah." He has translated the Bhagawad Geeta (sold 7000 copies) and while teachers of the Koran could not answer his numerous doubts the Sanskrit Bhagawad Geeta dispelled them all.

THE VEDIC ROOTS OF ISLAM

Muslims, particularly Indian Muslims, have been misled by their convert leaders into believing that Islam is the very antithesis of Vedic culture alias Hinduism and hence they must all the time hate it, repudiate it and oppose it tooth and nail. It is a great tragedy that all those who take such a stand are blissfully ignorant of the fact that their ancestors were Hindus who were dragged from their homes howling and screaming and forced to profess Islam. Consequently every Muslim must first find out which of his ancestors was first converted to Islam and under what circumstances. If he lacks the heart and the courage to delve into his own history, how can he profess to be honest, truthful and impartial in studying world history? Such a purging of the mind of Muslim bias is the first essential purification for becoming a 'pure' historian.

Let us now examine the antecedents of Islam. We have already seen in the earlier chapters that for millions of years, i.e. from the start of the world right upto 7500 years ago, i.e. upto the Mahabharat war Vedic culture alias Hinduism and Sanskrit held full sway over the world. Arabia is a part of the world. Therefore, Arabia professed Vedic culture.

Islam branched off only 1372 years ago. Consequently, it follows that Mohamed himself and his family were adherents of Vedic culture.

The Encyclopaedia Islamia admits as much when it says that

Mohamed's grand father and uncles were hereditary priests of the Kaba temple which housed 360 idols.

The name of Mohamed's family was Kureshi which is a Sanskrit word signifying a branch of the ruling Kuru family.

Cairo

It is well known that over 7500 years ago, at the time of the Mahabharat war Kurus ruled the world. The scions of that family administered the different regions. Cairo commemorates that name.

Muhammad's Sanskrit Name

According to Arabic tradition Muhammad is a title. What was the name chosen for him by his mother or grand father is a detail lost in the great upset that Muhammad brought about in his family-tradition of idol-worship and in contemporary Arabic life.

But there are certain clues. We know that the central object of worship which survives at the Kaba to our own day is a Shivling. That was allowed to remain there because that was the faceless family deity of Muhammad's family.

It is a tradition with *Shiv* worshippers to name most persons in the family after Lord Shiv. One of the names of Lord Shiv is Mahadev (i.e. the Great God). Therefore the original name of Muhammad could have been Mahadev.

This appears fairly certain also because the Arabs still have a Mahadevi sect. Moreover the title *Mehdi* of a Muslim chief is also a malpronunciation of the term *Mahadeva*.

In a chapter in this volume discussing the ruins of the Vedic trinity found in the British Isles it has been shown that the term Mahadev got corrupted to *Mahaddi* in popular local usage. Similarly the name Mahadev could have got changed to Muhammad in Arabic usage.

According to Sanskrit etymology the term Muhammad implies 'a person of great inspiration' (महन् मद: यस्य असौ महंमद:) 'Mahan

madah yasya assau Muhammadah '. In a hostile sense it also implies a person of a proud and haughty temperament '.

In the passions that he had aroused in contemporary life in his own family and in the Arab community it is quite plausible that while his admirers should twist the original name Mahadev endearingly to Muhammad while his detractors too should use that same name to sneer at the rebel as a person of great conceit with equal relevance. Consequently Muhammedanism should in fact be understood to represent Mahadevanism.

Namaz

The five-times a-day Muslim prayer-ritual, Namaz, is a Sanskrit term. It is a jumble of two Sanskrit words Nama and Yaja meaning "bowing and worshipping". Even the figure 'five' has a Vedic significance as may be judged from the words Panch-Maha-Yajna (the five great fire worships); Panchagni, five fires; Panchamrita, the nectar-like holy syrup made from five ingredients; Panch, five wise men of the village who form a council to arbitrate on village affairs; Panchagavya signifies the five products of the cow; Panchang, the Vedic almanac which gives prominence to five details in assessing the opportune time for launching important undertakings; and Pancharatna, five holy gems. Such instances of the importance of the figure 'five' in Vedic tradition could be many more.

Mohamed As A Practitioner of Yoga

Even the various postures of the Islamic Namaz are those prescribed by the Vedic science of Yoga, points out Ashraf F.Nizami, author of the illustrated book titled: **Namaz: the Yoga of Islam.**[1]

In the 'foreword' to the book, another Muslim, F.A. Fazelbhoy points out "Analyzed impartially there is a very great similarity between the observance of Namaz and daily practice of Yoga. Those who say their Namaz everyday are unconsciously doing Yoga....."

(1) Namaz: The Yoga of Islam, 31-page illustrated booklet written by Ashraf F. Nizami, Nizami Compound, Pratapnagar Road, Baroda.

The author, Nizami explains that the Arabic word for Namaz is Salaat. It is derived from Silaa which is the noun of the verb Wasala denoting meeting. The meaning of Yoga too is joining oneself with divinity.

The author observes in the preface to his book that "the asanas of Hath Yoga and postures in Namaz are observed to have common features." Since Namaz is presumed to be initiated by Mohamed, and according to Nizami, it entails Yogic postures it is obvious that Mohamed practised and taught Yoga to his followers, in the Kaba.

Kaba

The Kaba temple in Mecca, which the Muslims have captured and misappropriated, was an international Vedic shrine.

An ancient Vedic scripture is titled **Harihareswar Mahatmya** meaning the "Importance of Lord Hari and Har", i.e. Lord Vishnu and Lord Shiv. It mentions that Vishnu's foot-prints are consecrated in Mecca. Since Lord Vishnu, reclining on the coils of the eternal Time Serpent, is believed to be the progenitor and sustainer of this cosmos. His images used to be erected at all important centres throughout the world. All those places have since become centres of universal pilgrimage. One such was the Kaaba in Mecca.

An important clue to this fact is that Muslims call all such holy precincts (whether in Jerusalem or Mecca) as Haram, which is the Sanskrit term Hariyam i.e. the precincts of Hari alias Lord Vishnu.

The relevant Sanskrit stanza reads :-

[illegible]

[illegible]

The allusion is to the Vaman incarnation of Lord Vishnu whose blessed feet were consecrated at three holy sites namely Gaya (in India), Mecca (in Arabia) and Shukla Teertha.

Foot-Prints

Worshipping such carved, holy foot-impressions is a holy Vedic custom which convert Muslims are inadvertantly perpetuating. But in doing this they delude themselves and mislead others that those foot-impressions which are on reverential display in several mosques and tombs around the world are in fact Mohamed 's own. There are several snags in what they profess. Firstly, worshipping a foot-impression amounts to idolatry and should, therefore, be taboo for a true Muslim. Secondly, Mohamed disclaimed having performed any miracles. Therefore, there can be no foot-impression of his on stone. Thirdly, foot-impressions must always be in pairs like shoes. Yet in most shrines where Mohamed 's fancied foot-print is on display, it is usually a single foot-print which would suggest that Mohamed walked only on one foot. In that case the question would be which foot, left or right ? Another question would be whether the foot-impression is uniformly of the same foot (left or right) in all shrines ? A third question would be whether every foot-impression is uniform and is on an identical stone and whether that variety or those varieties of stones were actually ever available in Mohamed 's Arabia ? Yet another question would be whether the dimensions of the carved foot accord with Mohamed 's stature as is known ? The fact appears to be that when the Vedic Kaaba shrine in Mecca was invaded by Mohamed the pairs of foot-impressions of Vedic deities there were plundered and were later traded to the gullible and devout as Mohamed 's own foot-prints, for some favour, personal gain or monetary reward by unscrupulous persons. That is why they are single and not in pairs.

The Black Stone

The Black Stone which is the Shiv emblem still survives in the Kaaba as the central object of Islamic veneration. All other Vedic idols could be found buried in the precincts or trampled underfoot in labyrinthine subterranean corridors if archaeological excavations are undertaken.

Yet even the Black Stone has been badly mutilated having taken

a lot of angry Islamic beating and hammering. Its carved base has disappeared. Even the vertical cylindrical stone[2] is broken into seven pieces, and its parts are now held together by a background of cement surrounded by a silver-band studded with silver nails. The Black Stone therefore, bears the look of a bandaged warrior returned from a crusade.

Even that stone has been half buried in the south- eastern portion of the Kaaba wall in the direction of India. The tall sanctorum of the Kaaba temple is perpetually closed and barred to all visitors and remains shrouded in a burqa – like heavy, black pall.

Western Scholars Mistaking Temples For Mosques

At a conference on Tropical Ethnoastronomy and Archaeoastronomy held at the New York Academy of Science, from March 30 to April 1, 1981 David A. King of the Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies, New York city read a research paper titled : **Astronomical Alignments in Mediaeval Islamic Religious Architecture** based on an untenable presumption. His presumption that historic buildings in West Asia were built as mosques and tombs because they are being used as such in our own times is itself mistaken. All spectacular historic buildings in Muslim lands are captured pre-Islamic constructions. If readers remember this basic proposition then alone all of King 's observations about the design of the building and alignment of the Qibla etc. proves very pertinent.

Firstly, it may be noted that David king observes in the very opening paragraph of his research paper that "with the advent of Islam, Mecca became the navel of the earth in Islamic tradition, and the Kaba, a pre-Islamic pagan shrine of uncertain origin and date, came to represent a focus if not an object of veneration".

The main point to be noted above is that the Kaba which is being assumed to be a focal point of Islam is in fact the focal

(2) P.64, With Lawrence of Arabia, by Lowell Thomas, 6th edition, Hutchinson & Co. Paternoster Row, London.

point of the universal Vedic culture alias Hinduism of primordial antiquity.

The second point which historians should learn to deduce is that since Islam has made a captured Vedic shrine its main centre of worship, other lesser Islamic shrines throughout the world are also captured Vedic shrines.

Consequently, their architecture, layout and decorative designs etc. are all pre-Islamic features.

Mecca the Navel of the Vedic World

Another point of significance in the above quoted passage is the word "navel". Kaba is traditionally regarded as the navel of the world because a great statue of the reclining Vishnu with Brahma borne over the top of an umbilical chord emerging from Lord Vishnu's navel was erected there at the very centre. Surrounding Lord Vishnu in subsidiary shrines were hundreds of other Vedic deities. The idea is that the cosmos receives an incessant supply of inexhaustible energy for all its activity and animation from Lord Vishnu through his navel. This is the basic Vedic concept about the creation and sustenance of the universe. Accordingly, in the ancient times it was a common practice to install gigantic statues of the reclining Vishnu in temple-complexes around the world. Three such locations mentioned in the Sanskrit scripture known as (हरिहरेश्वर माहात्म्य) Hari-Hareswar Mahatmya include Mecca as mentioned earlier.

A very important ancillary proof is that Lord Vishnu alias Krishna's mammoth temple in Jagannath Puri (India) has four ochre flags fluttering from its dizzy pinnacle displaying the crescent and Sun and crescent and star emblems. These symbols hitherto mistakenly believed to be Islamic signs are in fact Lord Vishnu's emblems. This further proves that in pre-Islamic times when the Kaba used to be Hariyam i.e. Lord Vishnu's (alias Lord Krishna's) temple identical ochre flags bearing the crescent, star and sun symbols used to flutter from its pinnacle. It is those Vishnu emblems which adorn the flags of Muslim countries. It may also be noted that

Mohamed's flag was initially of the Vedic saffron colour. It was changed to green later to distinguish it from that of his opponents who also sported a saffron-colour flag.

The Reclining Vishnu

Statues of the reclining Vishnu (symbolic of the creator and sustainer of the universe) were erected at important locations namely Gaya (in India), Kaba in Mecca and in Rome (Italy). Many more venerated statues of the reclining Vishnu, with other attending deities were also erected in Indraprastha i.e. Delhi (at what is currently mistakenly known as the Kutub Minar), and in the Isle of Angelsey in Great Britain.

Both Christians and Muslims in their iconoclastic zeal have, through the ages destroyed idols of Vedic deities and seized the premises for use as churches, mosques and tombs. Such latter-day misuse by latter-day converts must not, however, mislead historians in investigating the past.

David King, of New York University, employed as an authority in Islamic studies observed in his research paper[3] "*From the eighth century onwards Muslim astronomers devoted much attention to the problem of determining the qibla of any locality from the geographical coordinates of Mecca and of that locality.* They derived geometric and trigonometric solutions of considerable sophistication, and even compiled tables displaying the qibla for each degree of latitude and longitude....."

The above assessment needs critical examination because it is a confused conglomerate of untenable hearsay.

Islam Ushered a Dark Age

Firstly historians must totally abandon their fancied belief that the rise of Islam led to a revival of learning and acquisition of expertise in all branches of learning. The truth is just the very

(3) Paper titled : Astronomical Alignments in Mediaeval Islamic Religious Architecture (Other details are mentioned earlier).

opposite. The so-called Arab proficiency in learning was all pre-Islamic. Chauvinistic Islamic writers have craftily post-dated and grafted that earlier Arabic expertise to the post-Mohamed era.

The rise of Islam put a full stop to all Arab learning because thereafter all Arab energies were diverted to raiding, looting and burning. Therefore, the rise of Islam not only meant a dead stop to all learning in Arabia itself but even in every other land which became a victim of the Islamic sweep. The incentive to learn through strenuous effort was no longer there when they could make easy money by murder and massacre. They had no more the time, patience or the need to learn anything except maraudering. There were no schools and no teachers. Everybody became a raider. All the lights of learning were extinguished in the lands which came under the blight of Islam. The only thing learned and taught was the Kalma, Koran and Killing non-Muslims.

Consequently, the geometric and trigonometric solutions of considerable sophistication and tables displaying the qibla for each degree of latitude and longitude in Arabia are of pre-Islamic times when the location of the reclining Vishnu in Mecca was of overwhelming importance to the entire Vedic world.

How and why then do Muslim historians ascribe the revival of learning to the rise of Islam? The reason is very simple.

How And why Islam Falsified History?

Eversince all lands from Java in the east to Spain in the West, came under Muslim domination there was no non-Muslim left to complain about or listen to wails or tales of rape, rapine and murder. The conversion of everybody in those lands was so swift and complete that after a generation or two when those horrid atrocities leading to mass conversions were forgotten the neo-converts were all made to sing in a chorus that Islam had in fact come as a great harbinger and messenger of learning. And in so doing they deftly post-dated pre-Islamic learning to the post-Islamic era.

The Three Questions

David King poses three crucial questions - ''How could the earliest Muslims, innocent of any knowledge of geography, let alone the exact sciences, have determined the quibla? And, if they did possess that expertise why are so many mediaeval mosques....not properly aligned towards Mecca? And how can one account for a substantial corpus of mediaeval Islamic literature on 'folk astronomy' on which instructions are presented for finding the qibla by means of sun, stars and even the winds?'' Thus experts like David King, aware of the anomalies in the traditional chauvinistic, hearsay Muslim claims, still admit those claims at their face value. This is like blowing hot and cold at the same time.

The Vedic Design

About the Kaba structure itself David King says that it accords to ''The notion of a world divided into eight or twelve sectors about the Kaba....the boundaries of the directions from which (the winds) blow, in pre-Islamic Arabian meteorology. These texts point even to the astronomical alignment of the Kaba itself.... *the minor axis of the rectangular base of the Kaba is solstitially aligned towards summer sunrise and winter sunset*''.[4]

On page 5 David King observes ''Situated in a valley flanked by sacred hills, the Kaba, built by the sacred spring of Zamzam, houses a sacred meteoric stone (the most important of several stones that were once at the Kaba), *and is oriented astronomically.....upto the time of Mohamed it contained 360 idols of the gods and is already known to have been a shrine associated with sun worship. The Kaba astronomically oriented to face the winds, call to mind the more sophisticated octagonal 'tower of the winds' in Athens....built in the 1st century B.C. as an architectural representation of an eight wind system....* Price sees it as an architectural representation of an interlocking set of theories *covering virtually all creation* and comprehending cosmology.

(4) Page 4 of his research paper (mentioned earlier).

chemistry and physics, meteorology and medicine''.....Berthold argued that the *earliest mosques in the Hijaz-faced east....* seen as a residual effect of the *predilection of the pagan Arabs for the east....the black stone is set in a corner of the Kaba,....* Each *wall or corner of the Kaba was associated with a specific region of the world....* Chelhad was able to recognize the *function of the Kaba as a microcosm of the universe....* ''.

We could quote any number of such authorities. The Muslims themselves keep discreetly quiet about the Kaba. They seldom speak about their pilgrimage. Such secrecy became a part of the Islamic tradition because the Kaba is a captured Vedic shrine.

The significant details quoted above state that the pre-Islamic Arabs faced the east when praying; that the Kaba is built on a tantric pattern, symbolizing the eight directions and represents a microcosm of the universe. All these are Vedic attributes.

Repeated Islamic vandalism spread over several centuries has left only a box-like central sanctum. Similarly, the big temple-complex around the sanctum housing hundreds of deities having been hammered down and reduced to rubble was gradually carted away over the centuries. What now remains is a vast gaping, desolate open yard around the box-like sanctum and subterranean labyrinthine corridors and chambers.

The desolate space surrounding the Kaaba is an oblong square 250 paces long and 200 broad, none of the sides of which run quite in a straight line. ..This open square is enclosed on the eastern side by a colonnade; the pillars stand in a quadruple row. They are three deep on the other sides, and united by pointed arches every four of which support a small dome; plastered and whitened on the outside. These domes, according to Kotobodeyn are 150 in number. The pillars are above 20ft. in height and generally 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ ft. in diameter. Some are of marble granite, but the greater number are of common stone of the Meccan mountains. Between every three or four columns stands an *octagonal* one about four feet in thickness. There are about 450 pillars here. *This temple has so often been ruined and repaired that no traces of remote antiquity are apparent about it.* On the inside of the great wall which encloses the colonnades, a single Arabic inscription is seen containing the names of Mohamed and his immediate successors. The name of Allah in large characters occurs also in several places (These details are from pages 243 to 246 of **Travels in Arabia** by John Lewis Burckhardt).

The octagonal shape referred to above is an unmistakable trait of Vedic tradition. We have mentioned, the importance of the figure 8 in holy Vedic tradition, elsewhere in this volume.

The Kaaba Sanctum

''The Kaaba is an oblong massive structure, 18 paces in length, 14 in breadth, and from 35 to 40 ft. in height. It is constructed of the grey Mecca stone, in large blocks of different sizes joined together, in a very rough manner. It was entirely rebuilt as it now stands, in A.D. 1627.

''At the north-east of the Kaaba, near the door, is the famous Black Stone. It forms part of the sharp angle of the building at 4 or 5 ft. above the ground. It is an irregular oval about seven inches in diameter, with an undulated surface, composed of about a dozen smaller stones of different sizes and shapes well joined together with a small quantity of cement and perfectly smoothed. It looks as if the whole had been broken into many pieces by a violent blow and then united again.....its colour is now a deep reddish brown approaching to black....It is surrounded on all sides by a border (which) supports its detached pieces. Both the border and the stone itself are encircled by a silver band, broader below than above and the two sides, with a considerable swelling below, as if a part of the stone were hidden under it. The lower part of the border is studded with silver nails.

''On the north side of the Kaaba just by its door, and close to the wall, is a slight hollow in the ground, lined with marble and sufficiently large to admit of three persons sitting. Here it is thought meritorious to pray, the spot is called El Madjan...

just over the Madjan, is an ancient Kufic inscription, but this I was unable to decipher..."

The Ancient Fair

"(In Mecca) Okath (alias Okaj) was a place where the ancient Arabic poets, as late even as Mohamed, used to recite their works to crowds assembled there at a great fair. The prize poems were afterwards suspended at Kaba. Okath is now a ruined place in the country of Beni Nagzera near Tayf" (pages 248 to 396, Travels in Arabia, by John Lewis Burckhardt).

From the above description it is clear that the Shivling in the Kaaba is not all in one piece. Its carved pedestal is no longer there. Even the upper cylindrical stone has been broken to pieces. Whether it was broken by Mohamed himself during his attack or by the Syrians when they carried away the holy stone as a war trophy to spite the Saudis and returned it after 22 years, is not clear.

The black-brown colour of the stone is the exact colour of the holy Shivling. The term Madjan is Mahadevan i.e. Lord Shiva.

Islam Turned Vedic Customs Topsy-Turvy

Islam claimed a separate identity for itself by the simple device of turning every custom of Vedic Arabia topsy-turvy.

This is a common strategy adopted throughout history by rebel groups. Christianity too retains all Vedic traditions and terminology under a deceptive Christian garb.

The Boy Scouts organization too while imitating police and military uniforms and drill claimed a separate identity by a left-handed hand-shake and a salute with only three fingers straight instead of all the five.

Islam did a similar thing. Because the Vedic custom is to pray facing the East, the Indian Muslim was told to pray facing the West.

While a Vedist grows a tuft of hair on top of his head, the

Muslim will have a corresponding long beard hanging down his chin.

A Vedist praying with a rosary turns down the beads while a Muslim retaining the Vedic rosary turns the rosary beads upward, one by one.

The Vedic perambulation around the deity is clockwise but the Muslim circumambulation around the Shivling in the Kaaba, is anti-clockwise.

Hindus in India bake chapatis on a pan placed concave on the hearth while a Muslim places his pan convex.

A Hindu washes his arms from the elbows downwards but a Muslim starts washing from the tip of his fingers backward to the elbow.

The crease of the pajamas and trousers of non-Muslims is in front but orthodox Muslims will always have it sideways.

While Vedists reckon the day from sunrise to sunrise, the Muslims reckon it from sunset to sunset.

While Vedic fasts are kept by total or partial abstinence from food the Islamic Ramzan- 'fasts' far from entailing any abstinence involve sumptuous and heavy lunch and dinner feasts at changed timings.

Cooking-pots among non-Muslims are nickle-plated from inside while Muslim cooking-pots are nickle-plated on the exterior.

A Muslim Urdu weekly published from Lahore before 1947 A.D. used to have a column in which the editor answered readers' questions. One reader asked whether Islam permitted the burning of incense-sticks in homes? The editor replied that though the fragrant smoke freshens the breath and purifies the air yet only because Hindus commonly use incense-sticks Muslims must shun them. This is a typical instance of the hatred that Hindu converts to Islam have been tutored to harbour against their own erstwhile kith and kin.

Turks

The term 'Turaga' in Sanskrit signifies a horse. Turegasthan is the 'land of horses'. Turkistan is a mediaeval corruption of that Sanskrit term.

On page 14 of his book titled **Sultan Mahmud of Ghaznin its** author, Professor Mohamad Habib of Aligarh Muslim University, states, "Sometime before the Christian era the Turki Shahi (Kushan) dynasty of Scythian Turks founded by Barhatigin began a career of conquest. Under its greatest monarch, Kanishka, a large part of Northern India, Afghanistan, Turkasthan and Mawaram Nahar was included in the Kushan empire. The Turks were quickly assimilated by the Indian civilization.....Albiruni states that the dynasty included no less than 60 kings, the last of whom, Legaturman, was deposed by his Brahmin wazir Kallur....The pedigree of the kings written on silk was preserved in the fortress of Nagarkot but Albiruni says he was unable to see it".

Names Ending in 'Gin'

The important points to be noted in the above passage are that names like Subuktagin and Alaptagin are Sanskrit (सुभक्तगुण) Su-bhakta-gun (i.e. one possessing the qualities of a good devotee) and (अलिप्तगुण) Alipta-gun (i. e. a person who has cultivated mundane detachment). Consequently fancied Muslim names ending in 'gin' must be recognized to have a pre-Islamic Vedic connotation. They must not be mistaken to be Muslim names only because the latter-day successors of that dynasty had been forced to accept Islam. The ferocity and barbarity of Turkish conduct eversince Turks became Muslims should serve to highlight the immense importance of Vedic culture alias Hinduism, to humanity.

Shah

Similarly the title 'Shah' alias 'Shahi' as Badshah or Shershah is not Muslim. In Sanskrit the term (शाह) 'Shah' connotes 'shining'. A person of royal descent 'shines' because of his wealth, status, power and personality. Even the English words 'Shone' and 'Shine'

are variations of the same Sanskrit term. The Hindu ruler of Nepal is called 'Shah'. Similarly 'Shah' is also a common Hindu surname. Therefore historians must realize the Hindu origin of dynasties styling themselves as Shahs.

The Scythians and Turks were all Hindus. That is why they had Brahmin ministers. Moreover, the antiquity of Turkish ruling dynasties reaches back to times when Islam and Christianity didn't exist.

The scroll of 60 kings mentioned above also disproves the common notion that Hindus never maintained historical records.

Shahman Kings

In a footnote on page 13 of his book (mentioned above) Professor Habib gives the dates for Samanid kings : Abdul Malik Bin Nuh (343-350), Mansur-bin-Nuh (350-365) Nuh-bin-Mansur (365-387), The Samanids had a big empire in West Asia. The name Samani is Shahmani i.e. persons of an illustrious mind. Early Arab chronicles recording Mohd-bin-Kasim's invasion of India refer to Indians as Turks and Samanis. That shows that the Turks and Samanis were Hindus. The Samanid empire was, therefore, a surviving chunk of the ancient world Vedic administration.

Since 'Nuh' is an abbreviation of 'Manu' it is apparent that the Samanid sovereigns righty claimed descent from Vaivaswat Manu the first human monarch.

Lat-Manat

Among the proofs of the Vedic culture of ancient Arabia are the names of two deities Lat and Manat enshrined in the Kaba. Lat Dev i.e. God Lat is the name of an ancient Hindu author of an astronomical work. Similarly Manat is a truncated part of the name Somnath.

Rama and Krishna

The two popular Vedic incarnations Rama and Krishna were revered throughout West Asia by the ancestors of all those who

profess to be Muslims today.

It has already been explained above how Muslims all over the world are supposed to meditate on Rama during the month-long Ramadhyan (alias Ramadan/ Ramzan) fast.

Allah is Sanskrit

Allah the Muslim term for God is Sanskrit. Allah, Amba and Akka are Sanskrit synonyms, which signify a goddess or mother. The Gulf of Akkaba is named after Her. The name Allah appears in Sanskrit chants concerning Goddess Durga alias Chandi alias Bhawani. In India Hindu names such as Alagiri Swamy and Alladi Krishnaswamy incorporate the name Allah. It is a clear pointer to their worship of the Mother Goddess, Allah.

Though the Muslims treat Allah as a male deity yet its original Sanskrit femininity is apparent from the Muslim expression YA ALLAH! In Sanskrit usage 'Ya' is used when invoking females as may be judged from the chant (या कुंदेन्दु तुषार हार धवला या शुभ्र वस्त्रावृता) "Ya Kundendu Tushar haar dhavala ya shubhra vastravrita". It is a pity, therefore, that Islam still berates and ill-treats women so much as to confine them in the solitary cell of a burqa.

The Seven Perambulations

The seven perambulations made around the deity in the Kaaba are significant. At Vedic marriages the bride and groom take seven steps around the sacred fire. The seven perambulations at the Kaba not only prove that it was a Vedic shrine but also that true to its name 'Mecca i.e. Makha'; it was an important international centre of fire worship.

Vikramaditya's Rule

Among the last renowned Hindu emperors of Arabia, known to history was the great Vikramaditya whose capital was at Ujjayini alias Avantika in Central India. He was a contemporary of Julius Caesar.

A mention of Vikramaditya's rule over Arabia is found in an

article written jointly by a Hindu and a Muslim in the commemoration issue of a local magazine around 1945 on the occasion of the 2000th anniversary of the Vikram Era celebrated with great gusto at Ujjayini alias Ujjain.

Arabic Poem Lauding Vikramaditya

Vikramaditya was so famous, both for his might, virtuous conduct and benevolent rule that his praises were sung in all lands. One Arabic poem in praise of Vikramaditya has come down to us. That poem runs as under in its Arabic wording :-

"Itrasshaphai Santul Bikramatul phehalameen Karimun
Yartapheeha Wayowassaru Bihillahaya Samiminela
Motakabbenaran Bihillaha Yubee qaid min howa
Yaphakharu phajgal asari nahans Osirim Bayjayboleen
Yaha sabdunya Kanateph natephi bijihalin
Atadari Bilala masaurateen phakef Tasabahu
Kaunni eja majakaralhada walhada
Achmiman, burukan, Kad, Toluho watastaru
Bihillaha yakajibainana baleykulle amarena
Phaheya jaunabil amaray Bikramatoon (Sair-ul-Okul p. 315).

Rendering it into English the above poem means :-

"Fortunate are those who were born (and lived) during king Vikram's reign. He was a noble, generous, dutiful ruler devoted to the welfare of his subjects. But at that time we Arabs, oblivious of divinity were lost in sensual pleasures. Plotting and torture were rampant (amongst us). The darkness of ignorance had enveloped our country. Like the lamb struggling for its life in the cruel paws of a wolf we Arabs were gripped by ignorance. The whole country was enveloped in a darkness as intense as on a New Moon night. But the present dawn and pleasant sunshine of education is the result of the favour of that noble king Vikram whose benevolence did not lose sight of us foreigners as we were. He spread his sacred culture amongst us and sent scholars from his own land whose brilliance shone like that of the sun in our country. These scholars and preceptors through whose benevolence we were once again made

cognisant of the presence of God, introduced to His sacred knowledge and put on the road to truth, had come to our country to initiate us in that culture and impart education."

This poem was by Jirrham Bintoi who lived 165 years before prophet Mohamed. King Vikramaditya ruled about 500 years earlier and yet Bintoi sings his praise. That indicates the enduring quality of King Vikram 's legendary fame.

Sair-ul-Okul

In Istanbul the captial of Turkey, is a famous library known as Makhtab-e-Sultania which is reputed to have the largest collection of ancient West Asian literature. In the Arabic section of that library is an anthology of ancient Arabic poetry. That anthology was compiled from an earlier work in A.D. 1742 under the order of the Turkish ruler Sultan Salim

The pages of the volume are made of Hareer - a kind of silk used for writing on. Each page has a decorative gilded border. Gilding pages of sacred books is an ancient Vedic custom associated with old Sanskrit scriptures found in Java and other places. The anthology itself is known as Sair-ul-Okul. It is divided into three parts. The first part contains biographic details and the poetic compositions of pre-Islamic Arabian poets. The second part embodies accounts and verses of poets of the period beginning just after Mohamed and ending with the Banee-Ummayya dynasty. The third part deals with later poets upto the end of Khalif Harun-al-Rashid 's times. Incidentally 'Banee' meaning 'Vanee' and Ummayya as in Krishnayya are Sanskrit names.

Abu Amir Abdul Asamai, a distinguished Arabian bard who was the Poet Laureate of Harun-al-Rashid 's court has compiled and edited the anthology.

The first modern edition of Sair-ul-Okul anthology was printed and published in Berlin in A.D. 1864. A subsequent edition was published in Beirut in A.D. 1882. This work is regarded as the most important and authoritative anthology of ancient Arabic poetry.

It throws considerable light on the social life, customs, manners and entertainment forms in ancient Arabia. The book also contains an elaborate description of the ancient Mecca shrine, the town and the annual fair known as OKAJ which used to be held there every year.

Learned Discussions and Discourses

But the OKAJ fair was far from a carnival. It provided a forum for the elite and learned to discuss the social, religious, political, literary and other aspects of Vedic culture then pervading Arabia. Sair-ul-Okul asserts that the conclusions reached at those discussions were widely respected throughout Arabia. Mecca, therefore, followed the Varanasi tradition of providing a centre for important discussion among the learned while the masses congregated there for spiritual bliss. As against that ancient international world assemblage of Sanskrit poets and pundits the current congregations in Mecca are mostly of illiterate or semi-literate Muslims. The principal shrines at both Varanasi in India and at Mecca in Arvasthan were of Vishnu and Shiva. Sair-ul-Okul tells us that a pan-Arabic poetic symposium used to be held in Mecca at the annual Okaj fair in pre-Islamic times with all leading poets participating in it. Poems considered best were awarded prizes. The best poems engraved on gold plate were hung inside the temple. Others etched on camel or goat skin were hung outside. Thus for thousands of years the Kaba was the treasure-house of the best Arabian Vedic poetic thought. This tradition was of immemorial antiquity. But most of the poems got lost and destroyed during and after the storming of the Kaba by Mohamed 's forces.

His court poet Hassan-bin-Sawik who was among the invaders, captured some of the treasured poems. His descendant in the third generation hoping to earn some reward carried some of those salvaged poems to Caliph Harun-al-Rashid 's court. At the Caliph 's court he met the Arab scholar Abu Amir Abdul Asamai. The latter received from the bearer five gold plates and 16 leather sheets with the prize-winning poems engraved on them, sending away the bearer happy, bestowed with a reward.

On the five gold plates were inscribed verses including two by ancient Arab poets Labi Baynay and Akhtab-bin-Turfa. This discovery led Harun-al-Rashid order Abu Amir to compile a collection of all earlier compositions. One of the compositions in the collection was by poet Jirrham Bintoi who had received the topmost award for the best poem for three years in succession at the Meccan symposium. All those three poems of Bintoi inscribed on gold plate were hung inside the Kaba shrine. One of those quoted above described the glory of King Vikramaditya.

A great many puzzles of history get automatically solved by a knowledge of Vikramaditya's rule over Arabia. As recorded by Bintoi Vedic scholars, preachers and social workers conducted fire-worship, administered the Vedic way of life, manned schools, set up Ayurvedic centres, trained the local people in irrigation and agriculture and consolidated in those regions a democratic, orderly peaceful, enlightened and righteous way of Vedic life.

It is from such ancient times that Vedic Kshatriya royal families like the Pehlvis and Barmaks have held sway over Iran and Iraq. It is that tradition which made the Parsees agnihotris (i.e.fire worshippers). It is, therefore, that we find the Kurds and Iranians speaking Sanskritized dialects, fire temples existing in places like Baku and Baghdad thousands of miles away from India, and scores of sites of ancient Vedic cultural centres like Navbahar (i.e. Nava Vihar) in Iraq and the numerous viharas in Soviet Russia and elsewhere throughout the world. Eversince so many viharas (Vedic educational centres) have been dug up in Soviet Russia. Ancient Vedic scriptures are also found from time to time in Central Asia.

Unfortunately these chapters of world history have been almost obliterated from public memory by Muslim and Christian fundamentalists. They need to be carefully deciphered and rewritten. When those chapters are compiled they might change the entire concept and orientation of ancient history. In fact the present volume is the first comprehensive text of that kind.

Vedic Stanzas in the Koran

Atleast one Koranic verse is an exact translation of a stanza in the Yajurved as pointed out by the research scholar Pandit S.D. Satawalekar of Pardi in one of his articles. The Vedic description about the moon, the different stellar constellations and the creation of the universe have been incorporated from the Vedas in Koran Part I, Chapter 2, stanzas 113 to 115 and 158, 159; Chapter 9, stanza 37 and Chapter 10, stanzas 4 to 7. That indicates that the Vedas used to be recited in Mecca and in the Kaba itself even during Mohamed's boyhood days.

Arabs followed the Vedic Calendar

The Hindus have a pantheon of 33 gods. People in Asia Minor too worshipped 33 gods before the spread of Islam.

The Muslim month 'safar' signifies an 'extra' month. This is an adaptation of the Vedic 'adhik' (i.e. extra) month of the Hindu calendar.

The Muslim month Rabi gets its name from the Vedic 'Ravi' meaning the Sun. Sanskrit 'V' is pronounced as 'b' in many languages.

Barah Vafat

The 14th day of the lunar dark fortnight around September / October, set aside in India for commemorative ancestor-worship, is known as Ghayal Chaturdasi because it is dedicated to those who have died by assault in battles etc. A similar observance prevalent among Muslims from the time of their Hindu, Vedic ancestors is Barah Vafat. Vafat is a corruption of 'phiphaut' meaning death in Sanskrit. Barah is a corruption of the Sanskrit word 'war' i.e. assault. It is that same Sanskrit word which Englishmen call 'war'. The Sanskrit term War Phiphaut has changed in Islamic pronunciation to Barah Vafat.

In the daily Sandhya prayers chanted by orthodox Hindus they ask for pardon from any sin committed the previous night through

word or deed ("Yad ratrya papam akarsham manasa vacha"). Similarly in the Atharva Sheersham god's blessings are invoked for strength to remedy the night's sins during the day, and the day's sins at night by improved behaviour. These were provided to serve as constant psychological reminders and correctives. The Sanskrit text says "Sayam diwasa krutam papam nashayati. Pratar adheeyano ratri krutam papam nashayati. Sayam pratah prayunjano apapo bhavati". The obsession about sin in Christianity arises from that Vedic tradition. Orthodox Vedic chants in Sanskrit (पापोऽहं पापसंभवः) 'Papo Aham....Papa Sambhavah' i.e. I am Sinful and 'born out of Sin', used to be repeated all over the ancient Vedic world.

Muslims are enjoined cleanliness of five parts of the body before commencing prayers. This derives from the Vedic injunction of "Shareer shudhyartham panchanga nyasah".

Four months of the year are regarded as very sacred in Islamic tradition. The devout are enjoined to abstain from plunder and other evil deeds during that period. This corresponds to the Vedic practice of observing Chaturmas, the four monsoon months as requiring special austerities and vows.

Shabe Barat

The Muslim festival Shabe Barat is a relic of the Vedic Shiv-Vrata alias Shivratri observance. Since the Kaba had a Shiva shrine the Shivratri festival used to be celebrated there with great fervour.

Self-Inflicted Torture

Muslim Shia participants in Muharram processions carrying towering glittering Shiva temple replicas for destruction are often seen to sigh, wail and scream while gashing themselves with daggers or lashing themselves with iron chains.

The real historical explanation is that when invading Arab hordes swept across Iran in their neo-convert Muslim zeal, they compelled Shiva-worshipping Iranians to ravage their own Shiva temples and carry the debris to the outskirts of their towns and cities for dumping. In the annual Muharram processions Shias alias Shaivas all over

the world unwittingly recall and re-enact the poignant anguish of those fateful days when under Arab lashes and gashes sorrowing Iranians were wrenched away from their Vedic moorings. Therefore the Muharram procession, misunderstood as a sectarian Muslim ritual, is in fact an expression of a touching, painful Iranian national longing for earlier Vedic culture especially because (as explained earlier) Muharram signifies that which is forbidden.

The annual pilgrimage 'Haj' is a local distortion of the Sanskrit word 'Vraj' signifying proceeding on a journey.

All this indicates that Mohamed was born in a family with Vedic traditions. But when he chose to break away from the family's Hindu tradition and heritage and declare himself a prophet to start a new antagonistic cult Mohamed's joint Hindu family broke up in an internecine feud.

Farflung Hinduism had, therefore, its own Armageddon in Arabia. In that family-strife Mohamed's own uncle Umar-bin-e-Hasham, a staunch Hindu and fervent devotee of Lord Shiva, got slain.

The Makha-Medini (i.e. Mecca-Medina) region resounded to the chants of Vedic mantras since time immemorial. Buddha's statues got added to the existing Vedic pantheon there. That is the beauty of the Vedic pantheon. It has a large heart and a commodious stomach to absorb everything that has divine qualities.

Mohamed's uncle Umar-bin-e Hassham was a renowned poet whose famous Arabic poem in praise of Lord Shiva, included in Sair-ul-Okul and cited on a column in the (fire worship pavilion in the rear garden of the) Lakshminarayan temple in New Delhi, runs as under :-

Kafavomal fikra min ulumin Tab asayru
Kaluwan amataul Hawa was Tajakhru - 1
We Tajakhayroba udan Kalalwade-e liboawa
Walukayanay jatally, hay Yauma Tab asayru-2
Wa Abaloha ajabu armeeman MAHADEVA -0

Manojail ilamuddin minhum wa sayattaru -3
Wa Sahabi Kay-yam feema-Kamil MINDAY Yauman
Wa Yakulum no latabahan foeennak Tawjjaru -4
Massayaray akhalakan hasanan Kullahum
Najumum aja- at Summa gabul HINDU -5

A free translation of the above poem invoking Lord Shiva is as under -

The man who may spend his life in sin and irreligion or waste it in lechery and wrath -1

If at least he relent and return to righteousness can he be saved ? -2

If but once he worship Mahadeva with a pure heart, he will attain the ultimate in spirituality -3

Oh Lord (Shiva) exchange my entire life for but a day's sojourn in India where one attains salvation -4

But one pilgrimage there secures for one all merit and company of the truly great -5

(Sair-ul-Okul - P.235)

A number of very important conclusions can be drawn from the above. It indicates that the first battles between Hinduism and Islam were fought in the very land which has been flaunted as the exclusive and original cradle of Islam. Muslim pilgrims still throw stones as a ritual of the Haj pilgrimage in the precincts of the Kaba where Mohamed had met stiff resistance.

Another important conclusion is that until Islam reversed the process of pilgrimage all Arabs yearned to visit Indian temples at Prayag, Hardwar, Varanasi, Rameshwar and other centres. Like the rest of the ancient world they regarded Indian sages, rishis, savants and Vedantists as their mentors and guides. It is at their feet that the Arabs came to prostrate to attain divine bliss and spiritual instruction.

Umar-bin-e-Hassham was held in such high esteem that his contemporaries called him Abul Hakam meaning the father of learning. To call a man of learning and spirituality a doctor (hakim) is Sanskrit, Vedic tradition. According to that the word Kavi signifies both a person of great attainments and a medical man. Eversince Mohamed raised his sword against his own uncle, the latter has been stigmatized in Islamic tradition as Abu Jahal i.e. 'the father of ignorance.'

On page 257 of Sair-ul-Okul is another very important verse composed by Labi-bin-e-Akhtab bin -e Turfa. He lived 2,300 years prior to Mohamed. Even at that early date i.e. around 1800 B.C. Labi pays devout poetic tribute to the Vedas and mentions each one of them by name.

That the Vedas were the only religious scriptures to which the Arabs owed allegiance as early as 1800 B.C. proves not only the antiquity of the Vedas but also the existence of Kshatriya rule over the entire region from the Indus to the Mediterranean because it should be regarded as an axiom of history that religion follows administrative control.

In the light of such evidence presented in this volume the very confident assertion in **The History of Mankind**, Vol. I, Part II, published by UNESCO, that the Rigved could not be older than 1200 B.C. seems worse than a schoolboy howler.

The very name of the poet Labi bin-e-Akhtab bin-e Turfa is reminiscent of the Sanskrit mode of tracing every individual's ancestry to the third generation. Thus in Indian marriages and other important religious functions the worshipper is always mentioned as the son, grandson and great grandson of such and such. The Arabs too being nurtured in that Vedic tradition tend to trace their lineage to 2 or 3 ancestors. Bin signifies "son of....." Thus Labi was the son of Akhtab who in turn was the son of Turfa.

His Arabic poem in praise of the Vedas could be written as under in Roman script :-

Aya muwarekal araj yushaiya noha minar HIND -e
Wa aradakallaha manyonaifaij jikaratun -1
Wahalatijali Yatun sinana sahabi akha-atun jikra
Wahajayhi yonajjalur-rasu minal HINDATUN -2
Yakuloonallaha ya ahlal araf alameen kullahum
Fattabe-u jikaratul VEDA bukkun malam yonajjaylatun -3
Wahowa alamus SAMA wal YAJUR minallahay Tanajeelan
Fa-e-noma ya akhigo mutiabay-an Yobassheriyona jatun -4
Wa-isa nain huma RIG ATHAR nasayhin Ka-a-Khuwatun
Wa asant Ala-udan wabowa masha -e-ratun-5.

The above two poems too were rated high and awarded a prize in pre-Islamic Arabia. They were hung inscribed on gold plates inside the Kaba shrine which had around the present truncated monument a temple housing 360 Vedic deities.

A free English rendering of Labi's celebrated poem singing the praises of the Vedas will be as follows :-

Oh the divine land of Bharat (how) very blessed art thou !

Because thou art the chosen of God blessed with divine knowledge enou -1

That celestial knowledge which like four lighthouses shone in such brilliance

Through the (utterances of) Indian sages in four-fold abundance -2

God enjoins on all humans, follow with hands down

The path the Vedas with His divine precept lay down -3

Bursting with (Divine) knowledge are SAM and YAJUR bestowed on creation

Hence brothers respect and follow the Vedas, guides to salvation -4

Two others, the Rig and Athar teach us fraternity

Sheltering under their lustre dispels darkness till eternity -5

The supreme reverence which the Arabs had for India, the Vedas and Lord Shiva and consequently for Sanskrit and Indian culture in pre-Islamic times is amply borne out by the above two poems.

Ancient Indian Vedic universities like those at Nalanda and Takshashila in India functioned in all important centres renowned in the ancient world such as Bokhara, Samarkand, Alexandria, Cairo, Baghdad, Istanbul, Athens, Corinth, Rome, Paris, London and Stockholm.

Labi clearly mentions that Arabs were initiated in the Vedic doctrine of monolithic brotherhood through the study of Rigved and Atharvaved. This statement of a respected ancient Arab poet proves the Islamic pioneering claim of preaching brotherhood to be incorrect.

Ancient Arabia's identity with Hindu culture so clearly borne out by Labi and Umar automatically explains the existence of Buddha images and Indian fire-worship throughout West Asia.

Since Mohamed's uncle was a Hindu it clearly follows that in those times of joint families, all members including Mohamed were Hindus and were nursed in Indian lore, tradition and culture.

Our conclusion that Mohamed's assault was merely to capture the Kaba with all its wealth and not to float any new religion is based on several very sound and solid grounds viz.

(1) Throughout history for over a thousand years an unending line of other well known or lesser known Mohameds (such as Mohammad-bin-Kasim, Mohammad Ghaznavi and Mohammad Ghori) continued to raid different countries and capture immense wealth from all over the world emulating the first Mohamed Qureshi of Arabia.

(2) Forcing people to proclaim themselves Muslims through terror and torture, was instant military recruitment for continuing plunder throughout the world and not for any pious or peaceful

purposes.

(3) That Islam was a new political force for Arab military domination is further proved by the Muslim practice of delivering inflammatory harangues at Namazi congregations and freely stocking missiles and brickbats in so-called mosques and mausoleums, for attacks on non-Muslims.

The Koran and Hadiths

The general impression spread throughout the world with the force of Muslim arms that the Koran and the Hadith embody Mohamed's own words is not based on facts. Blind reverence or fear has dissuaded Muslims from ever probing the origin of the Koran and the Hadith, while blind belief in overwhelming Muslim tradition has persuaded professional historians into unquestioned acceptance of Muslim claims.

But discerning and un-awed scholars such as Colin Maine have pointed out that "The Koran was written down 20 years after Mohamed's death, and the first Hadith (i.e. Sayings of Mohamed) 220 years after his death. Many Hadiths were invented in the intervening years to support a particular course of action". (Extracted from a publication of the Rationalist Association of N.S.W. 58 Regent Street, Chippendale N.S.W. 2008, Australia)

That the entire Koran is a fabrication of Islamic pressure-groups who wielded power after Mohamed's death is apparent from the above observation. If the Koran didn't exist for 20 years after Mohamed how was it compiled all of a sudden? Unlike the Vedic tradition the Arabs didn't have families of professional hereditary reciters of the Koran in Mohamed's time. Naturally therefore the Koran couldn't have been preserved through oral recitation. The written version is an impossibility too in the absence of any uniform writing aids and aides. Moreover the Muslims themselves admit of tampering with the natural chronological order of the Koran 'heard' from heaven and arbitrarily readjusting it length-wise from the longest chapter to the shortest. That implies that the Koran has neither head nor tail.

The same is the case with the sayings of Mohamed. They are known as Hadiths. The Sanskrit 'Satya' changed to Hatya (in Arabian mannerism) and thence to Hadith. Who could recollect sayings of Mohamed 220 years after him? Obviously, therefore, the Hadiths are compilations of some shrewd people who coveted power, wealth and importance and therefore put the 'Mohamed' stamp on their own imaginatively conceived 'Sayings'.

Such new improvised substitutes were found to replace pre-Mohamed Vedic history of the Arabs which was deliberately and systematically wiped out. But a crime no matter how deftly committed can always be detected. Therefore it shouldn't be beyond human ingenuity to repiece the pre-Mohamed history of the Arabs and the pre-Jesus history of the Europeans.

Even now seemingly Muslim recitations at the annual Haj-pilgrimage retain the resonance and cadence of erstwhile Vedic recitations revealing how a synthetic Islam was hurriedly improvised and super-imposed on Vedic tradition.

Despite systematic destruction of the traces of pre-Islamic Vedic culture among the Arabs the Caliphs being informed that pre-Islamic Arabic poetry was still retained and recited by several Arabs who nostalgically recalled their Vedic past, they devised a diabolic plot to make the Arabs disgorge that cultural treasure. Repeated proclamations were sent out that the Caliphs wished, very magnanimously, to compile an anthology of all pre-Islamic Arabic verse and therefore wanted all Arabs to turn in all such poems in return for gold coins.

The bait was alluring to the impoverished Arabs. They assiduously collected all Vedic, Sanskrit, Arabic poetry manuscripts concerning the pre-Islamic culture of Arabia and took it to the Caliph. Such repeated calls and offers brought in a large collection. Had that been really preserved and published that would have been a very rich source of history. But all those collections were cunningly destroyed. That was the basic intention from the very beginning.

What is more, those poems were substituted by some inane.

spurious compositions about wine and women. Anyone asking for pre-Islamic Arabic poetry is presented those concoctions so that he may dismiss the pre-Islamic past of Arabia, as trash. Consequently historians lament that there is left practically nothing of pre-Islamic Arab history.

Therefore those who believe that Muslims are prolific writers and great historians who have left a number of chronicles are mistaken. They are excellent examples of suppressio veri and suggestio falsi. They must never be believed. Yet reading between the lines one can derive some very important information from them.

Researchers may also note that there still are some other ways of getting at the pre-Islamic history of Muslim countries.

Libraries, in Islamic capitals such as Cairo, Istanbul, Teheran and Baghdad still contain volumes, pictures and sketches which could throw some light on the pre-Islamic history of lands which have since been subjected to a Muslim stranglehold.

There are also stray sources such as the Vikramaditya commemoration volume mentioned above.

Anthologies of pre-Islamic Arabic poetry prescribed for students for B.A. and M.A. degrees in the Punjab in an undivided India, also contained poems of the kind quoted above.

Some erstwhile Muslims who left Islam disgusted with its falsehood and suppression have left some important writings. One such was Gyanendra Sufi who was the heir to a so-called Muslim mausoleum in Gorakhpur.

Brockdemann, a German has compiled a bibliography of pre-Islamic Arab literature. I am informeed that it does not list the Sair-ul-Okul. That is because the contents of the library at Istanbul were looted by a frenzied fanatic Muslim mob earlier.

Anyway given the will, effort, manpower and funds the pre-Islamic history of West Asian countries can certainly be traced

and reconstructed. In doing this however, one must not be misled or cowed down or won over by Muslims or pro-Muslim vested interests.

European Visitors to the Kaba

Eversince Mohamed captured the ancestral Kaba Vedic temple and banned non-Muslim entry to it some adventurous non-Muslims have from time to time visited the Kaba and recorded what met their eye in those closely and fiercely-guarded premises.

Ludovico Barthema was one among the few Europeans who were lucky enough to visit the Kaba and return alive. The impressions of his visit 1053 A.D. were published in 1551 A.D.

The first known Briton to visit the Kaba was Joseph Pitts. He was captured by the Arabs in a battle in Algiers and was sold away as a slave in 1678 A.D. to a resident of Mecca. Later he escaped to the protection of the British Mission in Jedda. H. Bicknell in 1862 and T.F. Keene in 1880 A.D. were two other English visitors to the Kaba.

In 1807 A.D a Spaniard, Juan Badia Seblis temporarily converting himself to Islam visited Mecca. His two - volume travel - account was published in 1816 A.D. under the title - Travels of Ali Bey.

On page 86 of it he records "The basement (of the Kaaba) which surrounds the building is of marble." He adds that "the interior of the Kaaba is a big hall with two centrally placed pillars each of about two feet diameter. The ceiling is shrouded by a sheet of costly cloth, so are the walls upto a height of about 5 feet from the floor. The cloth was of rose-colour silk, sprinkled with flowers embroidered in silver, and lined with white silk."

He adds that, "in the northern corner is a staircase (permanently barred) leading to the terrace. Near that corner is fixed the sacred Black Stone. Opposite that is a marble-paved basement, praying in which is considered very holy. Mohamed used to pray in it." On pages 95 to 103 Ali Bey tells us that old houses in Mecca are in the ancient Indian-cum-Persian ornamental style. Mecca has no

flowers, no artists, no sculptors and not even cobblers. Footwear is imported from Turkey and Egypt. No music is ever heard in Mecca.

The ubiquitous burqa thus shrouds not only Muslim women but even so-called mosques and mausoleums. These loose, baggy shrouds are a common sight in most so-called Muslim shrines throughout the world. The objective is to hide the tell-tale signs on the walls and the ceiling. For instance, around 1968 A.D. when I enquired from the Arabic section of the Smithsonian Institutions in the USA whether they had the text of the ancient (believed Sanskrit) inscriptions on the Kaba wall I was informed that Muslim orthodoxy maintained strict seclusion and secrecy about the Kaba and barred entry to all outsiders.

Islamic Reverence for ॐ(OM)

All Arabic copies of the Koran have the mysterious figure 786 imprinted on them. Why ? No Arabic or Koranik scholar has all these centuries been able to resolve that mystery.

A figure has only mathematical relevance. Any figure abruptly intruding into a written text, out of context must naturally be some word mistaken to be a figure. And so it is the Sanskrit letter (ॐ) read from right to left in Arabic practice.

Thus the figure 786 appearing on Koranic pages is the Arabic transcript of the Vedic holy letter (OM) (ॐ) looked like 786.

To get a visual idea, readers are advised to write the holy Vedic Sanskrit letter (ॐ) on a peice of paper and hold it so as to make the letter face the light. Then take a look at it from the back. It will appear as 786. Since knowledge of Sanskrit had worn off by that time in Arabia that reversed symbol (OM) was mistaken to be some esoteric figure 786 and was mechanically transcribed in Arabic characters as above to adorn the pages of the Koran. It ought therefore to be pronounced as OM to start the reading of the Koran instead of mistaking it as the figure 786.

Vedic Themes on Muslim Stamps

As per Muzaffar Hussain 's article in the Organiser weekly dated May 9, 1993 ''There is hardly any Muslim country which has not chosen some Hindu cultural artefacts for its philatelic illustrations. Saudi Arabia has published a 5 - Riyal stamp depicting the eternal dance of Radha and Krishna. It has also used the ancient mythological episode of Sita in Ravan 's captivity pining for Rama in the Ashok grove. Syria also carries on its postage stamp an illustration of Krishna giving Arjun a piece of advice. Aegypt has so far issued eight stamps depicting scenes from the famous epics of Ramayan and Mahabharat. Similarly Kuwait and other Gulf countries also have issued postage stamps propagating Hindu culture. Yemen has published a stamp showing Hanuman flying with Mount Dronagiri. It is commonplace to find stamps with pictures of Ajanta, Ellora and Taj. But it is amazing to find stamps that have clear association with idol worship to be issued in Islamic countries.''

The port town of Tobruk on Libya 's eastern sea-coast is connected with Libya 's capital Tripoli by a 1500 km. highway. When Indian contingents fought as part of the British army against Rommel 's German troops in World War II, a wargraves memorial erected there has the Sanskrit words Aum Bhagawatay Namah as per the wish expressed by the dying Indian soldiers.

The scenes from Vedic epics on Arab postal stamps is clear evidence of the pre-Islamic Vedic culture of the Arabs. Philatelists, may look out for those stamps for an historic album.

Ancient Arabs were Hindus

THE WORLD THAT WAS July 30 to Aug 5,1940 (FROM THE PAGES OF THE MADRAS DAILY, HINDU), has the following information :

'' The world today is quite familiar with the presence of expatriate Indians in large numbers in Islamic countries of West Asia. Naturally, a large proportion of those repatriates consist of Hindus.

'' That in 1940 itself, there had been a precedent for such a presence may come as something of a surprise to our readers today.

More so when those Hindus were reported to have been present in Arabia for some centuries then !

"Extracts from a communication sent to this newspaper by Mr. T.S. Vinayaka Rao, an advocate of Madras." —

"At this juncture, when the war threatens to spread to the Near East, it will be interesting to learn that a community of people who are Hindus, and who are idol-worshippers, have been existing in Arabia for several centuries. They live surrounded by Muslim tribes.

"This Hindu community which is well-organized, almost on the pattern of a little tribal state, was originally under the rule of Turkey. But, after the Great War of 1914, it came to be held under the mandate of France...

"The people of the above Hindu community all speak Arabic, and they call themselves the "Durjas" Their full name in Arabic is "Davil Dal Duruj" which means "people of the Durja."

"The Durjas are divided into two notable classes, one group who wear the orthodox tuft and those who do not do so. Those who do not wear the tuft are in greater number. The Durjas are worshippers of Shiva and Ganapati and they have idols installed in temples for their worship. Some shrines are actually built very much on the lines of Hindu temples in India. Many other have adopted the pattern of mosques. Whatever the construction of the shrines they all have priests who perform sequences or rituals including the 'Arati.'

"The religious books of the Durjas are found to be in the Arabic script. They are written in the form of poetical lines and the priests have committed most of the books to memory. Both the men and women have modelled themselves on the Arab tribes and therefore display extremely war-like qualities and manners. Hence repeated efforts over several centuries to convert them to Islam have failed. Similarly, strenuous effort by the Muslims to exterminate them altogether have also been frustrated. A significant

difference marking the Durjas out is the refusal of their women to wear purdah (veil). The survival of that freedom of their ancient Hindu origins is another surprising fact."

To that newspaper report we would like to add that that fiercely Vedic Arab community inhabits the southern region of Saudi Arabia known as Dar-ul-Khali. where obviously the writ of fiercely Muslim Saudi Arabian Government doesn't run. The survival of that Vedic Arabic community practically unknown to the outside world is a wonder.

All world ambassadors to Saudi Arabia, especially the Indian ambassador ought to establish contact with that surviving Vedic community. The title too is totally Sanskrit, Deval Dal Durjay meaning the 'Tough Temple Guards" which suggests that when the Kaba was stormed repeatedly by Mohamed's waxing army a section of the Vedic Kaba temple guard got uprooted and isolated. Its descendants have eversince tenaciously maintained their Vedic traditions continued from Mahabharat times. Efforts by the fanatic Arab Muslims to exterminate them altogether have been frustrated. A significant difference marking the Durjas out is the refusal of their women to wear purdah. The survival of this freedom from their ancient Hindu origins is another surprising fact.

The Koran Mentions the Vedas

The Koran repeatedly alludes to the Vedas as ancientmost scriptures. Hereunder are a few instances.

1. Sura No. 5 Verse - 52 -

And to thee, we hath sent down the book of the Koran with truth confirmatory of previous scriptures, and their safeguard.

2. Sura No. 10 Verse 94 -" And if thou art in doubt as to what we have sent down to thee inquire of those who have read the scriptures before thee. Now that the truth has come unto thee from thy Lord, be not therefore of those who doubt."

3. Sura No. 12 Verse 111 - "Certainly in their histories is

an example for men of understanding. This is no tale of fiction, but a confirmation of previous scriptures, and an explanation of all things and guidance and mercy to those who believe."

4. Sura No. 35 Verse : 28 - And that which we have revealed to thee of the Book is the truth, confirmatory of previous scriptures : For God knoweth and he toldeth his servants."

The terms Sura and Ayat connoting chapter and verse respectively in the Koran are of Vedic Sanskrit origin since 'Sura' signifies Divinity while Ayat means "received from."

The basement is considered very holy because in most Shiv temples there are two Shivlings one above the other (one in the basement and the other on the ground floor). The one in the basement is usually in water and is considered very holy.

The sheet described as rose-coloured is in fact of the Vedic ochre colour. The flower-decoration too is of pre-Muslim origin.

Samariya is mentioned in the Bible as a part of the Palestinian region. Samariya is a Sanskrit term indicating a war zone.

Samaritan in Sanskrit indicates a warrior, resident of the Samariya region.

Saam Ved

The 5-Times a day call for Namaz shouted by the Muezzin from mosque-tops is, intonated exactly in the Saam Vedic tone and tune.

Courtesy British Museum, London

A typical ancient Vedic brass lamp from Saudi Arabia, on display in the British Museum, London.

In pre-Muslim times when the Arabs practised Vedic culture

they had such oil lamps burning in front of Vedic deities in the Kaba and other temples as is still done in Hindu, (Vedic) temples in India. The flame represents cosmic light and animation.

Stories such as **Allauddin and His Wonderful Lamp** originate in such ancient Hindu, Vedic lamps.

This is the Shivling in the Kaba which Muslims of the world perambulate at the annual Haj pilgrimage in Mecca.

It is a cylindrical dark-brown sacred stone about three feet tall. Being covered with silver foil only the bare oval in the centre gives one a glimpse of the stone's surface. The Shivling was bereft of its carved stone-plinth.

The Shivling since turned out of the Kaba sanctum, has been fixed in the south-east corner (facing India) of the exterior surface of the wall, exposed to sun and rain.

None is ever allowed entry inside the Kaba temple sanctum which housed the reclining Vishnu and was a place of international Vedic pilgrimage.

The Muslims refer to the Shivling as Sangay Aswad i. e. Black Stone. The Arabic word Aswad is Sanskrit (अश्वेत) Ashwet meaning non-white (i. e. black)

Courtesy British Museum, London

A cow-head from pre-Islamic Arabia on display in the British Museum, London.

Installing such cow-heads as water-spouts or for worship, is a hoary Vedic practice which was followed in pre-Muslim Arabia.

In Arabic the cow is known as Bakar. In Sanskrit 'Id' signifies 'worship'. Consequently Bakri-id signifies a day of cow-worship in hoary Arabic, Vedic practice.

A chapter in the Koran itself is named after the sacred cow as Bakar. Cow-slaughter is a crime in Arabia, it is said.

The fancied Muslim name Abu Bakar is 'Abhay' Bakar i. e. one who protects the cow or is protected by the (holy) cow.

Courtesy British Museum, London

A Hans-Vahini (swan-mounted) goddess Saraswati from pre-Islamic Saudi Arabia on display in the British Museum, London.

After the shattering effect of the Mahabharat war (C. 5561 B. C.) regions of the world gradually drifted away from Vedic culture until Christianity and Islam wrenched them away completely.

During that period of drift and estrangement the representation of ancient Vedic deities became progressively prosaic. Therefore

the deities found amidst historic ruins in Christian and Muslim countries do not bear the same symbolism and ornamentation as they do in India. That deficiency should not, however, be misconstrued to mean that the deities are non-Vedic.

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After the end of World War II, Oak hitch-hiked from Singapore to Calcutta across the border jungles of several countries.

From 1947 to 1974 his profession has been mainly journalism having worked on the editorial staffs of the Hindustan Times and the Statesman, as a class I Officer in Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, and as editor in the American Embassy's information service, all in New Delhi.

Around 1959, Oak developed a curious new insight into history which led him to some stunning discoveries as a result of his absorbing hobby of visiting historic sites. He then founded (June 14, 1964) the institute for Rewriting Indian History and wrote several books (listed elsewhere in this volume).

Oak's historical acumen led him to discover further that even world history has gone wrong. His discoveries have therefore, outgrown the name and scope of the Institute for Rewriting Indian History. Having discovered that from time immemorial up to the Mahabharat War, Vedic culture and Sanskrit pervaded the whole world.

Oak is keen to found a world Vedic Heritage University to educate the world in the primordial Vedic unity of all humanity. To that end he invites correspondence from all those willing to help.